

# THE RELIQUARY.

APRIL, 1893.

## The Pre-Conquest Churches of Northumbria.

BY CHARLES CLEMENT HODGES, ARCHITECT.

### Tynedale (*continued*).

#### WARDEN.

#### *Church of St. Michael.*

THE two streams called the North and the South Tyne flow together and form the Tyne at a spot a mile and a half north-west of Hexham. The land rises rapidly from the beds of the two streams, and in the fork between them attains an elevation of 593 feet. The highest point is called Warden Hill, on the summit of which is a large circular camp of pre-Roman date with numerous concentric circumvallations and distinctly marked gateways. This camp is three miles from Hexham, but just a mile to the south-west of it, or two miles from Hexham, is another similar camp of smaller size, not so strongly defended. This is placed on the spur of the hill, and stands at an elevation of 244 feet. It is close to, and overlooks, Warden Church. The importance of the situation was recognised by the early occupiers of the country, and it continued a place of some consequence during the post-Roman period. It is thought by the best authorities to be the locality mentioned by Bede in an account of a miracle attributed to St. John of Beverley, one of the bishops of Hagustald (Hexham). He says, "There is a certain building in a retired situation, and enclosed by a narrow wood and a trench, about a mile and a half from the church of Hagustald, and separated from it by the river Tyne, having a burying-place dedicated to St. Michael the Archangel, where the man of God used frequently, as occasion offered, and particularly in Lent, to reside with a few companions."\* On the other hand, some hold that St. John Lee is the place meant. Prior Richard, writing in the latter half of the twelfth century, says, "An oratory, dedicated to the worship of St. Michael the Archangel, occupied a hill overhanging the north bank of the river Tyne. This hill is called in English, Erneshou, and in Latin, *Mons Aquile*."† St. John Lee Church is, however, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, and the probability is that Prior Richard, in relating the miracle, which occurred long before his time,

\* Bede *Hist. Eccl.* sub. anno 685. † Richard of Hexham, book i., chapter iv.

was quoting from Bede, and confounded the two places together. As St. John Lee is exactly one mile from Hexham, while Warden Church is exactly two miles, the distance given by Bede might be said to apply to either, so also might the description of the site; but on the evidence of the ancient dedication to St. Michael, we must conclude that Warden is the place he meant to describe.

The only ancient part of the church remaining of pre-Conquest date is the tower (Plate iii.). This is of precisely similar character, both in its plan and workmanship, to the towers at Bywell, Corbridge, and Ovingham, and as Warden is but a short distance from the line of Severus's Wall, it is not surprising to find that a considerable portion of the masonry, if not all of it, is of Roman workmanship. The angle quoins are large and rough, and as some of those placed upright, pass as many as four courses of walling stones, while others of equal length run far along the wall surface, the term, "long-and-short-work," may fairly be applied to them. The dimensions of the tower are sixteen feet five inches from north to south, and fifteen feet seven inches from east to west. The walls are two feet ten inches in thickness. The elevation is divided into four stages. The lowest opens into the church by an arch of very rude character. It has plain jambs made of large stones irregularly placed, which are manifestly of Roman dressing. It will be noticed that these jambs are slightly splayed out on the east side, or towards the church, a rare feature, and, judging from the analogy of the western doorway into the Hexham crypt, an indication of early date. The width is five feet two-and-a-half inches on the west side, and five feet five-and-a-half inches on the east side. The imposts are only five feet one-and-a-half inches from the floor, and consist of Roman moulded stones ten inches in thickness, having a square fillet, two quarter rolls, and a chamfered member. These mouldings return for a short distance on both sides, but on the east side they are modern insertions, and are therefore of doubtful authenticity. The arch has a perfectly plain soffit formed of very rough stones, in two courses, so that there is a wide joint round the centre of the soffit. There can be no doubt that the work was originally plastered. The jambs and arch are now stripped of the plaster to show the character of the work. The total height of the arch from the floor of the church to the soffit is only eight feet six inches. The lowest stage of the tower is lighted by a window on the south. This has the peculiarity of inclined jambs; a feature rarely met with in England, though common in Ireland, and due to Scoto-Irish influence. A narrow chamfer is carried round the external angles, and the width of the opening is six inches at the head, and seven inches at the sill. The external head of this window, like that of the lower one on the west side\*, has the appearance of having been cut out of the head of a memorial cross, but weather, and modern over-pointing, have rendered this doubtful, and the stones would have to be taken out to make it certain.

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\* This is now, unfortunately, quite hidden by ivy.

Like Ovingham, the tower of Warden has had several floors, and its walls have been plastered internally. The joist holes of the first floor are filled up and difficult to trace, but those of the second are visible, and show that this floor was at a height of thirty-five feet from the church floor. There are four joist holes, seven inches square, in the north and south walls respectively. There are two windows in the second stage. The one looking to the west is a replica of that just described; that in the east wall opened to the nave. It has a semi-circular head, and is much smaller than the similarly placed opening at Ovingham. It is now built up, and is only visible from the inside of the tower, but, owing to the absence of the first floor, it is inaccessible. The third stage has a window to the south only, of smaller dimensions than those below, but has, like them, inclined jambs. The fourth, or belfry stage, has been sadly altered from its original condition. Externally, it presents that appearance of neat ugliness which was so dear to the hearts of the repairing and "beautifying" churchwardens of the last century, the change having taken place in 1765. The whole of the masonry from the external surface, from the summit to the sills of the belfry windows, was renewed in plain ashlar, the new surface being set back three inches.\* The belfry windows are now single openings with four central arches, and the battlement is of the bastard type, with flat stones laid on the merlons and crenelles. We are consequently left in complete ignorance, as far as the outside is concerned, of the original character of the most important stage of this tower. Internally, we are in a more fortunate position, for here economy seems to have stayed the hands of the beautifiers, and the wall surfaces are ancient, and the four belfry windows exhibit plain openings, three feet in width, with square jambs, supporting plain square soffited arches with a single ring of voussoirs. The walls of the belfry are now from two feet five inches to two feet seven inches thick. The roof is a low, slated pyramid, carrying a good vane of the date of the alterations.

Apparently, at the same time, the nave and other parts of the church were rebuilt, but a small portion of the ancient north nave wall was left, and gives the dimensions shown on the plan (Plate iv.).

There is in the porch a curious piece of sculpture of pre-Conquest date. This is a slab obtained by splitting a Roman altar, and bears the figure of a man, represented standing full face, the arms partly outstretched, and the feet turned outwards. In the spaces above the shoulders are very rudely sculptured triquetra knots, and below the arms, in the spaces at the sides of the figure, are long pieces of knot-work. All sorts of idiotic theories have been put forth as to who this man is, and what he is doing, but a simple description of the sculpture is sufficient here.

In the churchyard there lies an early grave cover of semi-circular

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\* The result is the loss of the string-course, which, it may be assumed, was to be found here under the sills of the belfry windows, as at Corbridge, Bywell, and Ovingham.

section, and with a raised fillet along the centre. It is broken at both ends, but the character of the dressing, and the unusual form of the stone, seem to indicate that it is of very early date.

#### TYNEMOUTH.

There are now no remains of the Anglian monastery at Tynemouth, and it will be sufficient here to mention three stones of the early period which have been found on its site. These are portions of the shafts of one or two, and the head of another memorial cross. They are all in the Black Gate Museum at Newcastle-upon-Tyne.\* The larger piece of the shaft has sculpture on all its sides, the narrower ones or edges having simple knotwork; but the broader sides have figures introduced amongst knotwork, on one side a man, on the other a curious creature resembling a lion with a human head and knotted tail. The head of the cross is of the circular form with expanded arms, and has knotwork on the arms, and a hemispherical projecting boss in the centre of both its sides.

In a field not far from the ruins of the priory is "the Monk's Stone," a part of the shaft of a sculptured cross, but now in such an advanced state of decay that the exact nature of the ornament is rather uncertain.

#### NEWBURN.

##### *St. Michael's Church.*

This church is only mentioned here because it has generally been included among those of pre-Conquest date in Northumberland. There are, however, no features in its tower, the oldest portion, that indicate an earlier style than the fully-developed Norman. Its proportions, too, are entirely different to those of the examples we have been considering. Though it is not so high, it is much wider, being more than twenty feet square, while the walls, instead of being two feet seven inches thick, are three feet three inches. It has also two string-courses, and the belfry windows are arranged on the principle of one plane within another, instead of flush with the wall surface as in all the earlier examples. The first mention we have of a church here is that by Symeon, who relates how Cospi, the Earl of Northumberland, was slain at "Nyweburne" church in 1068.†

#### HEDDON-ON-THE-WALL.

##### *St. Philip and St. James's Church.*

This building, of the highest interest, is one which exhibits the rare feature of a Norman groined vault in its chancel. It is, how-

\* To which they were presented by Alexander Shannon Stevenson, Esq., and Charles James Spence, Esq.

† Symeon Dunelmensis "*De Regibus Saxonibus*." "At ille collectis postmodum viribus eundem Cospi in introitum ecclesie de Nyweburne interfecit."



ever, to the south-east angle of the nave that our attention is now directed. This retains a portion of the quoined angle of the nave of the early church, perhaps the earliest on the site. It is a good specimen of "long-and-short-work," and, with the exception of Whittingham tower, the best in the county. Some of the upright stones pass four courses of wallers, but the length of the horizontal quoins is doubtful, as they are partly covered by a later wall.\* The adjoining chancel has Norman work of two different dates, but beyond these quoins there is nothing left which can, with any degree of certainty, be placed as early as the period before the Conquest. The church has now no tower.

#### STAMFORDHAM.

##### *St. Mary's Church.*

There are no remains here *in situ* of the early period, but some very important pieces of sculptured memorial crosses have been found. The best of these are now in the Cathedral library, Durham. They bear well-wrought carvings of the vine pattern, of similar character to the Acca cross at Hexham, and they, no doubt, emanated from the same school of workers, and are probably of a nearly contemporaneous date.

#### SIMONDBURN.

##### *St. Mungo's Church.*

Simondburn, one of the largest parishes in the county, possesses a fine church of the thirteenth century. In the porch are preserved a number of early stones, one of which certainly belongs to the pre-Conquest period. It is a portion of a cross shaft, and is sculptured with the vine pattern of the same character as the Hexham crosses.

#### BIRTLEY (NORTH TYNE).

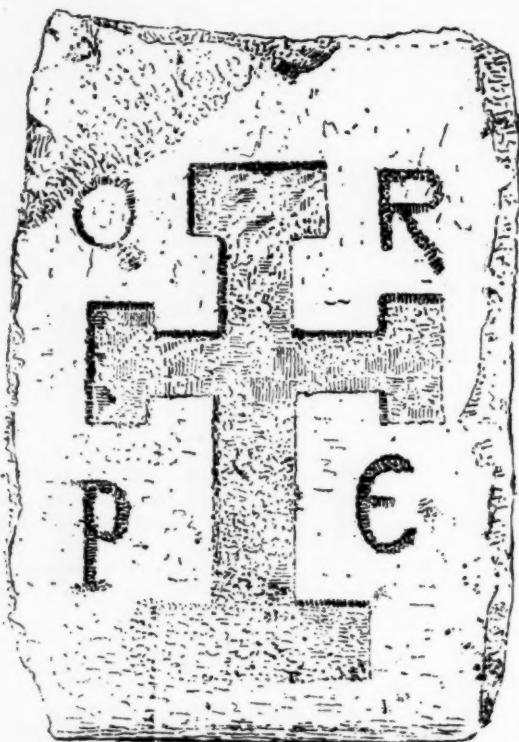
##### *St. Giles's Church.*

The early Norman work at Birtley Church has been erroneously supposed to date from a still earlier period. The proportions of the building are, however, Norman, and are in strong contrast to those of Saxon date, in which extreme loftiness in comparison with the width is such a striking feature. The chancel arch is original, and is low and spreading. The jambs and soffit are plain, and the impost stones are chamfered. The present building had, however, a predecessor, as in 1887 the stone here illustrated was found in a wall then removed. It is a memorial stone of a rare type, of which examples have also occurred at Hartlepool, Lindisfarne, and Wensley in England, and at Clonmacnoise and Glendalough in Ireland. Their

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\* *Vide* paper by Cadwallader J. Bates, Esq., *Archæologia Æliana*, vol. xi., p. 240, 5 plates.

exact mode of use is a little doubtful, but it is generally believed that they are grave-covers, and lay on the surface of the ground over the body, though it is also possible that they were headstones of the small type, as this one may have been, and were placed upright at the head of the grave.\* The cross on the Birtley stone is sunk



MONUMENTAL STONE, BIRTLEY, NORTH TYNE.

about one-eighth of an inch below the surface of the stone, and the four letters are supposed to signify "*Orate pro Eadward*" or "*Eadmund*."†

\* A number were found *in situ* at Strata Florida, and are well illustrated in Mr. S. W. Williams's *Monograph*, 8vo., 1889, Plate opposite p. 204.

† *Archæologia Eliana*, vol. xiii., p. 258.

## FALSTONE.

*(Dedication unknown.)*

This is a remote spot high up the valley of the North Tyne. There are no early remains *in situ* in the church, which has been more than once rebuilt in modern times. In 1813, a very curious stone was found here which may best be described as a miniature hog-backed grave-cover. It seems to be intended to represent a house, as the top has sloping sides and an uneven ridge. The ends have simple knots and a triangular space above, like a gable. It bears a bi-literal inscription, in Runes and Anglo-Saxon characters, the two portions of which are divided by a band. The inscription reads, when translated into modern English—

Eomær this set  
after Hroethberth  
a beacon after his uncle  
pray for the soul.\*

Five other early stones have been found at Falstone. These are all portions of the shafts of memorial crosses, and all bear the vine pattern of the Hexham type. It is, however, very rudely rendered in a merely imitative manner, and as one of the stones exhibits the vine branches arranged in exactly the same way as they are on the Acca cross, it is only reasonable to suppose that that splendid specimen had been seen and copied by the man who carved the Falstone crosses.

## SOUTH TYNEDALE.

This district, and the country between the Tyne and the Derwent, still known as Hexhamshire, though both localities, where many indications of considerable early occupation have been met with, do not contain, as far as we know, any pre-Conquest remains in the churches; nor have any portions of monumental stones of the early period been found over this area so far as can be determined by what has been recorded of the changes made in the buildings and the discoveries on or about their sites.

## Northumberland Generally.

## BOLAM.

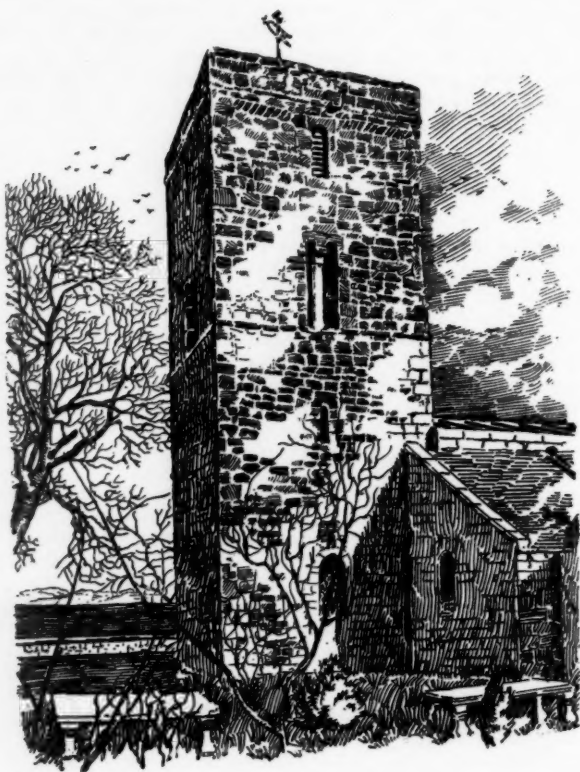
*St. Andrew's Church.*

This is one of the best known of the "Saxon" churches in the county, and has often been visited and described. The tower, and a portion of the north wall of the nave, are of the early period. A reference to the plan (Plate iv.) will show that the tower is the second in size of the six in Northumberland, it being exceeded only by

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\* *Archæologia Æliana*, New Series i. p. 155, and xiii. p. 268.

Ovingham. Though similar in its general features to the towers in Tynedale, it differs in some remarkable particulars. Its dimensions are seventeen feet five inches from north to south, by seventeen feet eight inches from east to west, and about fifty-four feet in height. It is divided into four stages. The lowest opens to the church by an arch of "Transitional" date, which replaces the original one. The two



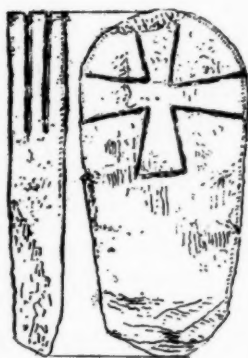
BOLAM TOWER, FROM THE SOUTH-WEST.

windows on the south and west sides have had their lower portions destroyed by the insertion of larger ones in modern times, and the remaining upper parts have been built up. The widely-splayed arches are to be seen on the inside, and the heads on the outside. The "light opening" is only four inches wide, while the interior splay is thirty inches wide. There are three floors at the

same levels as the ancient ones, but no traces of plaster remain on the walls, nor is there any opening to the church over the tower-arch, or any other signs of habitation. The second stage is lighted by three windows, in the north, south, and west sides. These are longer than in the Tynedale towers, and the heads are worked out of large stones of the height of two courses. They are four inches wide in the external opening, and have very slightly inclined jambs. Rather more than half way up the tower is a plain string-course, formed by projecting a thin course of stones two inches from the wall surface. This string-course marks the most important stage of the tower, the belfry, which, unlike all the other examples, is the third, and has another stage above it. The windows are most characteristic examples of the style and period to which they belong. They are of two lights, divided by circular monolithic mid-wall shafts, with rude bases on square plinths, and long through stones for capitals, hollowed out on their under sides. These capitals, or impost stones, do not project beyond the span of the arched heads laterally, but are flush with them. There is good reason to believe that the bells in these towers were hung in the openings, and were supported on one side by the mid-wall shaft. At Glentworth, in Lincolnshire, there are sockets cut for taking the "gudgeons" and grooves for dropping them into their places.\* The proportions of the windows, which are alike on all the four faces, are lofty and slender as compared with others of the same period. Higher in the walls, and marking the fourth stage, are single light windows, one in each face. The heads of these are only one course below the plain cornice. The one in the south wall has a semi-circular head cut from a single stone; the other three have triangular heads formed by laying two flat stones together. In a line with the window heads is a course of herring-bone work on the south and west faces. Above the cornice is a parapet of three courses, quite plain, and of later date than the tower, probably of the time when the church was extended by the addition of aisles. There are no indications of Roman workmanship on any of the stones in this tower, and the quoins are not conspicuously larger than the walling stones.

The original church was aisleless, as it was in its second, or Norman phase, when it seems to have been lengthened towards the east, and a chancel with two arches and an apse to the east of the second arch added.

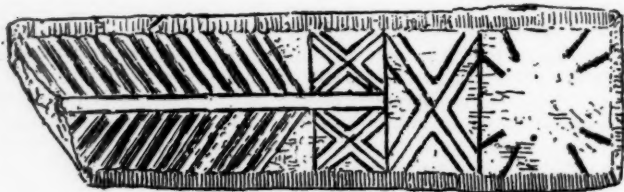
The curious memorial stones here illustrated were found in 1884,



EARLY MONUMENTAL STONE,  
BOLAM.

\* *Associated Societies' Reports and Papers.* Vol. xiv., p. 57; 2 plates.

when considerable alterations were made in the church. The grave-cover is of an early and rare type. There are two of somewhat similar character at Gainford. The headstone has a cross incised on both sides of it, showing that it was meant to be placed in an upright position. The lower portion, which was in the ground, is undressed.



EARLY MONUMENTAL STONE, BOLAM.

#### WHITTINGHAM.

##### *St. Bartholomew's Church.*

Whittingham is supposed to be the "Twyford" mentioned by Bede as being "near the river Alne," and signifying "the two fords."\* It was here that a synod was held in 664, when St. Cuthbert was unanimously chosen as bishop of Lindisfarne. The vill, along with those of Woodhorn, Edlingham, and Egingham, was given to St. Cuthbert in 738 by King Ceolwulf.†

If St. Cuthbert was consecrated here, there must have been a church on the site at a very early date, but it is highly improbable that the tower is of such extreme antiquity. This tower stands out conspicuously as exhibiting the best example of long-and-short-work in the northern counties, and it is a matter of the deepest regret that it was not allowed to remain intact to the present time. Its history in modern times, and that of the church, is a melancholy one. Archdeacon Singleton‡ thus describes it:

"Visited Aug. 6, 1828.

"The church is in excellent order, and there is a great spirit of improvement amongst the parishioners, but their communion plate is mean, and their walls have a sort of conventicle aspect for want of 'the select sentences,' 'the King's arms,' etc. The font is under repair. . . .

"The pews are all painted, the church and chancel ceiled, and there are some plain monuments to the Hargraves, the Claverings, and the Collingwoods. . . .

"The pillars of the church are curious"

"1841.

"Alas! these pillars have been removed! I called for caution

\* Alnmouth is by some supposed to be the place meant.

† Symeon, "*Historia Recapitulatio*," sub anno DCCCLIV.

‡ In his MS. notes of visitations to Northumberland Churches.

and delay and re-consideration, but the parishioners wanted room; the vicar was zealous, and I had no power to plead merely architectural curiosity against the spiritual necessities of the people. I have some consolation in thinking that dates and signs of remote antiquity had been hastily given by tourists and authors, and, at all events, the congregation have now light and room and the heat of three stoves in compensation. They resorted to a bazaar for the expenditure. I visited it in January, 1841, in company with



WHITTINGHAM TOWER BEFORE 1839.

(From Rickman.)

Captain L. Smith, of Alnwick, meeting Mr. Goodenough, the vicar, in the church. He is proud of his work, and has fitted up for himself a most aristocratic pew."

The destruction took place in 1839. The only graphic records of the church at that time are a plan hanging in the vestry and the small engraving of the tower in Rickman's *Gothic Architecture*, where may be found this slight description of the destroyed interior work:

"This church has a tower, and the west end of the aisles and one



arch on the north side all appearing of the same early style. There are Norman portions, but they are clearly of a different and later date, and parts of the church are even later still, with some modern mutilations. . . . One arch of what appears to me to be the original nave remains. It is very plain, has a large rude abacus or impost, and a plain square pier. It is now stopped, and forms part of the vestry. The next arch eastward, on the same side, is a common Norman one, with the usual round pier and a capital, with a sort of bell and a square abacus. The remainder of the church is



WHITTINGHAM TOWER, AS IT IS NOW.

(From a photograph.)

later, and of little comparative interest. The apertures in the tower have been much mutilated, yet those above have the balustrade sufficiently clear to mark the style."\*

It is evident from the remains at the west end that the tower belonged originally to an aisleless church; indeed, more than eight feet in length of the south wall of the early church still remains. The north arcade was clearly of an early type, and its western respond was a

\* Rickman's *Attempt*, etc. Ed. 1848, Appendix, p. ix.

section of the north wall of the first church, but whether any of the arches dated from a period anterior to the Conquest or not we cannot now decide, and it seems useless to speculate on what the original plan of the church was, or the dates of the different sections of the arcade. It may be concluded that a desire for uniformity was the real cause of the destruction, as the south arcade of three bays is of "Early English" date, and the modern north arcade is a dull copy of this, so that to the untutored mind both sides of the nave are now alike; at the same time, the upper half of the tower was taken down, and modern windows inserted in the west side of the remainder.

Originally the tower appears to have been in four stages. The angles have "long-and-short" quoins, as have also the remaining western angles of the nave. The walls are irregularly coursed work, and do not exhibit any Roman worked stones. The original windows are now all gone, and indeed all, except those in the upper stage, seem to have been destroyed or been replaced when Rickman made his sketch. The arch which opened to the church is now built up, and there is a modern doorway made through the blocking wall. The area under the tower is now used for the vestry. The arch is of considerable height, being nearly twenty feet from the floor to the soffit. It is much cut about, and the imposts are either destroyed or hidden by the floor of the organ loft. The arch itself has two rings of voussoirs, the inner one twelve, and the outer one sixteen, inches deep. The stones are of large size, and run about one and a half times their depth in their length. There is nothing to indicate the exact date of the remains of the arch. It may be contemporary with the tower, or it may be early Norman, and is perhaps contemporary with the destroyed north arcade.

In the churchyard at Whittingham is a standing cross with a head of the *Latin* form, and somewhat rudely sculptured, to which it would be difficult to assign a date.

#### WARKWORTH.

##### *St. Lawrence's Church.*

This was one of the places given to St. Cuthbert in 738 by King Ceolwulf, and the site possessed a church at a very early date. In 1859, when the deplorable changes were made in the structure, by the removal of the clerestory, the ancient roof of the nave, and similar valuable vestiges of antiquity, to make way for some very bald modern work, an excavation was made under the floor of the nave at its eastern end, and the foundations of the east end of the chancel of the early church were found about two feet below the present floor. They consisted of the base courses of the wall, formed of very large stones, ten inches high, each course projecting beyond the one above it to the extent of four inches. The extreme external width of the chancel from north to south was sixteen feet three inches, and the walls were two feet ten inches in thickness.\* It is

\* *Archæologia Æliana*, New Series, vol. v., p. 100, 1 plate.

much to be regretted that the explorations were not continued westward so as to determine the length of the chancel of this early church. The projecting base course or plinth was carried round the walls, being merely mitred at the angles, as there were no buttresses. The stones had square angles, instead of being chamfered. Early base courses, chamfered, and mitreing at the angles of the walls where they return, may be seen in the transepts at Stow, in Lincolnshire, and the tower of Stonegrave Church, Yorkshire.

In the church at Warkworth is preserved an early monumental stone, apparently a head-stone. It is semicircular at the perfect end, and is sculptured on both sides. The designs on the two sides are similar, and consist of a Latin cross with a small sunk circle at the intersection of the arms. The spaces between the cross and the edges of the stone are filled with rudely set out knotwork.

#### LINDISFARNE PRIORY.

##### *St. Peter's Church.*

The first church on the island of Lindisfarne of the time of the Aidan mission can only have been of a temporary nature, as we are told by both Bede and Symeon that Finan, the second bishop (652-661), "built a church after the manner of the Scots. He made it not of stone, but of hewn oak, and covered it with reeds; and the same was afterwards dedicated in honour of St. Peter the Apostle by the Reverend Archbishop Theodore. Eadbert, the seventh bishop, who succeeded St. Cuthbert (688-698) took off the thatch, and covered it, both roof and walls, with plates of lead."<sup>\*</sup>

This is all the recorded history of the early church, and for our information regarding the later stone structure, which intervened between the wooden church as Eadbert left it and the Norman building of the monk, Ædward, we must examine the remains on the spot and form our own conclusions. Reginald tells us that Ædward, the monk, who seems to have superintended the erection of the new church early in the twelfth century, made the building "new from its foundations, which he finished of squared stone with all the elegance of workmanship. The stone, of which there was a lack upon the island, was brought in wains and carts from the adjacent coast, and the men of the neighbourhood willingly lent a helping hand. There is, indeed, enough of stone upon the island, but as it becomes cindery by the spray of the sea, and is apt to break into small particles, it would be unfit for so large a building. Its fragments, however, served to fill the interstices of the walls."†

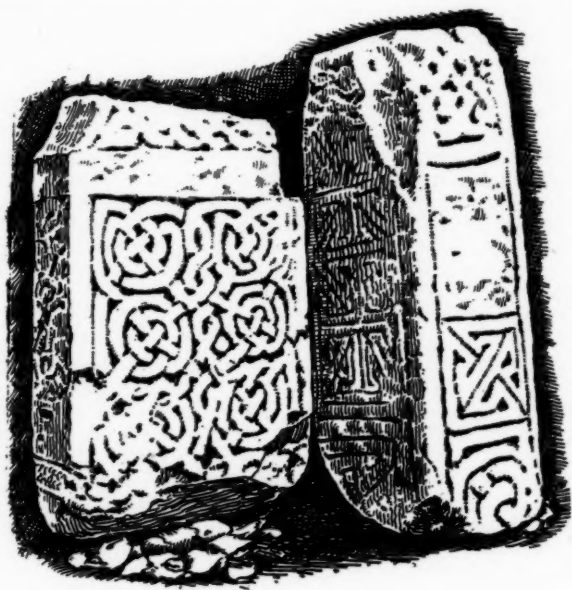
The natural inference from this passage is that the previous church to the Norman one had been built of the poor stone on the island, which is a soft white sandstone of a fine grain, while that in the walls of the Norman church is a hard and coarse sandstone of a dark reddish colour. Of this latter stone, almost the whole of the church,

<sup>\*</sup> Bede, *Hist. Eccl.*, Book III., chap. 25.

† Reginald, *Mon. Dur.*; quoted by Raine, *North Durham*, p. 74.

now in ruins, is built, but in the lower part of the walls of the north transept, the north side of the nave, and in one or two places at the west end of the chancel, are pieces of walling of the soft white stone. It is not at all improbable that these are portions of an earlier building which escaped entire removal when the later church was begun.

There is also every probability that the foundations, or rather the lowest courses of the walls, of the apse, which are to be seen in the chancel, are also of the early date. The strongest evidence in favour of this is the fact that the interior surface of the wall of the apse and of parts of the walls at the west end of the chancel adjoining to it



LINDISFARNE PRIORY,  
PORTIONS OF THE SHAFTS OF TWO MONUMENTAL CROSSES.

are plastered with a thin, hard plaster, and this plaster continues down *below the level of the floor of the Norman church*. It is natural to suppose that the Norman church would be raised a little above the level of its predecessor, so the apse was left in where it was, below the new level. The lines of the apse are somewhat peculiar; the semicircle is not a true one, and has elongated sides, so that there is an appearance of the side walls converging before they meet the spring of the curve.

Five stones, which are portions of sculptured monumental crosses,

have been found on the site. Two of these are here illustrated. One of the others, and the largest of the five pieces, bears a curious subject, in which five figures are introduced, and which has not yet been satisfactorily interpreted.\*

In 1888, another stone was found during the excavations made at the priory by Major-General Sir William Crossman, K.C.M.G. This is now preserved in the porch of the parish church. It is a small stone of the Hartlepool type, and measures eight by six inches. It has a semicircular head, and bears an incised cross with circular terminations to the head and arms, and an arched, or semicircular, base or foot. The limbs are indicated by five parallel incised lines, and the circles by three concentric lines. In the spaces at the sides of the stem are the letters forming the name AELBERÆT.

#### BEDLINGTON.

##### *St. Cuthbert's Church.*

There are no remains of the structure of Bedlington Church which can with any certainty be ascribed to the pre-Conquest period. There are some stones bearing sculpture, which have been found from time to time, which may belong to the early period, but there is a doubt of this.

#### BOTHAL.

##### *St. Andrew's Church.*

There was no suspicion of any remains of the pre-Conquest period on this site until 1887, when the church was undergoing repair and alteration. Beneath the floor, the large number of fifteen portions of early monumental crosses was found. These stones are now in the Black Gate Museum in Newcastle-upon-Tyne. They all bear sculpture of a somewhat rude type, consisting of interlaced work of varying degrees of excellence, and some figures. Two of the number, which are, perhaps, the most interesting, are portions of headstones of the semicircular form. These bear crosses with expanded arms and borders of the guilloche pattern.

#### ROTHBURY.

##### *All Saints' Church.*

The font at Rothbury, which is dated 1664, is supported on a portion of the shaft of a sculptured cross of the best type and the highest style of workmanship. It closely resembles the work on the celebrated crosses at Bewcastle and Ruthwell, but the design is on a smaller scale, the figures being more crowded than in either of those

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\* Built into the north-west tower is a small square stone with a dragon-like beast carved upon it. This is generally supposed to be of pre-Conquest date. This conclusion, however, admits of grave doubt.

two examples. There is, moreover, an entire absence of any traces of lettering on the three portions that have survived. The piece supporting the bowl of the font is two feet three inches in length, and twenty by sixteen inches square at the broader end. The side now facing north has a well-sculptured representation of the ascension of our Lord. He holds a folded scroll in His right hand, while below are seen the eleven figures of the Apostles, some of whom hold books in their hands. The south side has an elaborate and complicated piece of knot-work. The east face has an animal resembling a lioness or tiger walking amongst trees of very conventional and scroll-like form. There are also two smaller animals, one of lacertine character with a lion's head, the other resembling a monkey. The west face has serpentine and lacertine forms twisted together, and in the base a man holding a club.

In 1849, two more pieces of the same cross were found when some ancient walls were taken down.\* They had formed the upper portion of the shaft, and the head of the cross. The four sides of the piece of the shaft are sculptured; the top is plain, but has a circular hole in the centre, two and seven-eighths inches in diameter, and seven and three-quarter inches deep, for holding the dowel which served to hold the head in position. The sculptures are:—(1) Our Lord, with hair parted in the centre and cruciform nimbus, holding a book; (2) a group of eighteen heads and a number of hands appearing below them where the stone is broken, the hair is parted in the centre, and the heads are encircled by bands with a circular ornament in front, the eye-balls are punctured out; (3) two figures, and the hand of another with a finger touching an eye, apparently representing Our Lord anointing the eyes of the blind man with clay; (4) and a beast with horns and mane resembling an ox, amidst scrolls bearing leaves and fruit.

The head of the cross is unfortunately imperfect, and very much damaged. The existing portion is in one piece, and includes the upper arm, one of the side arms, and less than half of the lower arm. On the obverse the crucifixion has been sculptured. The right arm is the only perfect feature left. It is well carved, and a nail with a large head is seen in the centre of the palm. Of the head, only a small portion of the cruciform nimbus remains. Above the head, and filling the upper arm of the cross, is a "ministering" angel flying downwards. The reverse has had a bold circular projecting boss in the centre. This is completely broken away, and it can only be conjectured that it contained a bust of Our Lord, for in the three remaining arms are angels holding emblems of the passion. In the upper arm is the whipping post with a scourge wound round it. The angel grasps the post with the right hand, while in the left is held the sponge. In the side arm of the cross is an angel holding the crown of thorns, while in the lower arm is an angel holding three nails in

\* These are now in the Black Gate Museum, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

the right hand. In form the cross is an elegant one,\* the ends of the arms are hollow squares, and the inner angles are curved. The ends of the side arms and the sides of the square on the upper arm have knot-work, and a double roll moulding is carried round all the angles on both faces. In the top of the upper and side arms are circular holes, of which three remain, one in the top and two in the side arm. These are no doubt for holding candles to illuminate the cross.† There were five holes when the cross was complete.

On the south side of the chancel are two sundials with incised semicircles and radial lines. One of these appears to be of a very early date, and the stone bearing it may have been in the south wall of the ancient church.

In the porch is a small portion of an elaborately sculptured coped grave-cover, which appears to be of the same date and class of work as the cross.

#### WOOLER.

When the Alnwick and Cornhill railway was being made in 1885, a portion of the head of a pre-Conquest memorial cross was found near Wooler. This is now in the cathedral library, Durham. It is rudely sculptured, and has knot-work in the arms with a central circular boss, and has been cut from a water-worn stone which was not dressed to a level surface before it was sculptured.

#### WOODHORN.

##### *St. Mary's Church.*

No portion of the remaining structure dates from the pre-Conquest period. The lower portion of the tower and the north arcade are Norman, of perhaps two different dates. The remainder of the building is of various later dates. There are several pieces of early sculptured crosses and head-stones of the semicircular topped form. One of the fragments is the head of a cross, well carved with knot-work in the arms, and a projecting hemispherical boss in the centre on each side. Woodhorn was one of the four places in Northumberland given to St. Cuthbert in 738.

#### ALNMOUTH.

##### *St. John the Baptist's Church.*

This building stood on a small island at the mouth of the river Alne. As late as 1783 the walls were standing to their full height, though without a roof. In 1806 the last portions standing were blown down, and now hardly a trace of the foundations remains. The building appears, from the extant engravings of it, to have been of Norman date, but some parts may have belonged to an earlier

\* It is identical with that of the beautiful processional cross of Cong in the Museum of the Royal Irish Academy.

† *Archæologia Æliana*, Old Series, Vol. iv., p. 60, 1 Plate.



period. It was a cross church without aisles, and had no tower. The upper part of a cross of pre-Conquest date, which was found on the site of the church in 1789, is now preserved in the museum of antiquities at Alnwick Castle. It is sculptured on the sides and edges. One side bears a crucifixion in which four figures are seen grouped on the sides of the cross, the lower part of which is covered with knotwork. The other side and the edges have knotwork and the key pattern, and retain parts of the inscription in which Roman and Runic characters are used together. In one place MYREDEH ME WO[RTHE] is to be read, and in another AEDULFES TH[RUH]. Meaning "Myredeh made me" and "Aedulfe's grave."

#### BAMBOROUGH.

##### *St. Aidan's Church.*

The church at Bamborough is on one of the earliest ecclesiastical sites in the north. There was a wooden church here in the time of Bishop Aidan, for that holy man died in a tent which had been hastily put up for him on the occasion of his last sickness, at the west end of the church, against one of the posts of which he was leaning when he expired.\*

Of the first stone church it cannot be positively asserted that there are any remains, though it has been supposed, and there seem to be some grounds for the supposition, that portions of the eastern angles of the nave are pre-Conquest masonry *in situ*.

##### *The Basilica of St. Peter.*

The walls of the chapel, still to be seen on the rock of Bamborough, to the east of the keep, are of Norman date, and show that the building comprised a nave without aisles, a chancel, and an apse. The bases of the shafts of an internal wall arcade remain, as well as the jambs of the south door.

This chapel had a predecessor, which may or may not have been on the same site; it is more than once mentioned incidentally in accounts of miracles. Symeon says it was on the highest point of the hill, and was of the most beautiful workmanship, and that it contained, in a very ornate and sumptuous shrine, the right hand of St. Oswald, the king, wrapped in a pall, and still in an uncorrupt state. To the west of the church was a well, excavated out of the rock, which was fed with a spring of the purest water.† Aelred or Rievaulx also relates how the head of St. Oswald was carelessly kept in the same church, and how it was carried off from thence by an old man from Lindisfarne, St. Cuthbert having appeared to him in a dream and commanded him to transfer the relic to the church at Lindisfarne. The basilica seems to have been of some considerable

\* Bede, *Ecc. Hist.*, book iii., chapter xvii.

† Symeon, *Historia Regum*, sub anno 774.

size, for when, about 1050, Winegot, a predatory monk, of Peterborough, stole the arm of St. Oswald from the building, then in a neglected if not a ruined condition, he was a long time exploring its different parts and learning the arrangements of the building.\* And as Mr. C. J. Bates justly remarks in commenting on these allusions to the building, "It is impossible not to believe that this 'ecclesia præpulchre facta,' this 'basilica,' through the holes and corners of which the guardian of St. Oswald's head kept following the suspicious stranger, this church whose 'aditus' and 'exitus' it took Winegot so long to explore, was not something very much superior to the little twelfth century chapel that has succeeded it."†

A single sculptured stone of the pre-Conquest period has been preserved at Bamborough. This is part of the head of a cross, which has evidently been of large size, but so small is the fragment that it is impossible to gather more from it than the form of the head. This was a somewhat unusual one, and resembled the figure that would be produced by striking four arcs of circles within a circle, but as the radius of the arcs is unusually great in comparison with that of the containing circle, the arms are short, and narrow at their extremities, and the area of the centre is more than ordinarily large. The ornament consists of a broad band of knot-work around the margin of each side, and other interlaced work in the centre.

#### NORHAM.

##### *St. Cuthbert's Church.*

This was a very important place in early times, and many political transactions connected with the government of the two countries took place here. Its ancient name was UBBANFORD. The history of the church begins in the time of Egred, fourteenth bishop of Lindisfarne (830-845), who built it, or, more probably, re-built it, ‡ and having translated to it the sacred body of St. Ceolwulf, king of Northumbria, he gave it to St. Cuthbert, and to the church of St. Peter, at Lindisfarne. Egred's church was dedicated to St. Peter, St. Cuthbert, and St. Ceolwulf, and was no doubt of stone; the previous one, we may assume, was of wood.

In 1082, the church of Norham was given by Bishop Carileph to Durham Abbey, which had just been founded for Benedictine monks, the secular clergy, or the congregation of St. Cuthbert, having been ejected. It is again mentioned in a charter by the same bishop, dated 1093.

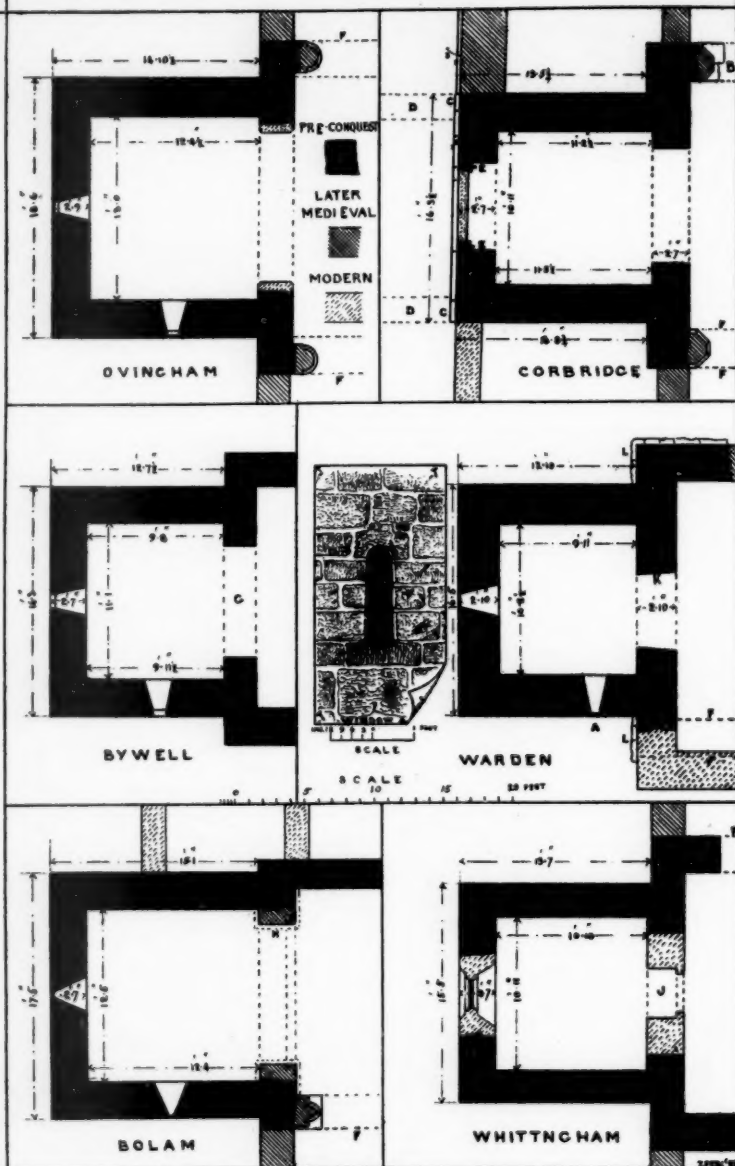
No remains of this early church are now standing, the present building having been erected between 1150-1180, or thereabouts. The chancel is an ornate specimen of Norman work, and of ample

\* "Aditus ergo et exitus viarum ecclesiæ quæ in Bebburgh fuerat dictus exploravit." Symeon, *Vita St. Oswald*, cap. xlviii.

† *Border Holds of Northumberland*, Bamborough, p. 271, n. 187; in which article the various authorities are quoted.

‡ Symeon, *Historia de S. Cuthberto*. Surtees Soc., vol. 51, p. 142.

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PLANS OF SIX PRE-CONQUEST CHURCH TOWERS IN NORTHUMBERLAND.

MEASURED AND DRAWN BY C.C.HODGES.

dimensions. The nave, as far as it is ancient, is a fine specimen of "Transitional," but it is clear that the design was never carried to fruition. A number of sculptured stones of the pre-Conquest period are preserved. These are now in the church, and are, unfortunately, built up into a kind of pillar with cement. There are in all eighteen fragments. They are portions of monumental crosses and grave-covers, which have been broken up to make walling stones. They bear some very refined specimens of knot-work, scroll-work, and figure carving.\* One exhibits a portion of an inscription, of which these letters can be read—

. . . P : A N I M A : Æ L F A . . . . .

#### EXPLANATION OF PLATE IV.

- A. Window with inclined jambs, south side of Warden tower.
- B. Stones of old north wall of nave under base of Early English pier at Corbridge.
- C. Tusings for bonding the side walls of the *atrium* or cloister to west of church.
- D. Traces of the foundations of the walls of the *atrium*. A step five inches wide runs across the west front of what was originally the porch. This step is now level with the ground, and is not a plinth, as might be supposed.
- E. The iron crooks for the two valves of the west doors.
- F.F. In all cases, the lines of the side walls of the early naves, which have been cut away for the insertion of later arcades.
- G. Tower arch, Bywell, St. Andrew. The jambs are pre-Conquest. The arch on them is a Pointed one of the thirteenth century.
- H. Jambs of twelfth century tower arch at Bolam. The engaged shafts have carved capitals of "Transitional" character.
- J. Modern wall and doorway filling tower arch at Whittingham.
- K. Splayed jambs to tower arch at Warden.
- L. Footings of large rough stones projecting five inches beyond wall line.

NOTE.—In four cases, the walls are two feet seven inches in thickness. In no case are they as much as three feet. Norman walls are rarely, if ever, under three feet in thickness.

The tower at Corbridge, originally a porch, has its greatest dimension east and west. The other five, which were built as towers, have their greatest dimension north and south.

\* *Stuart's Sculptured Stones of Scotland*. Spalding Club, Aberdeen, vol. ii., plates 27 and 28. *Berwickshire Naturalists' Field Club Trans.*, vol. 4, p. 218.

## The Marking of Goods put to Sale.

BY T. M. FALLOW, M.A., F.S.A.

THE prevention of fraud in matters of trade is of as much importance to the honest dealer as it is to his customers. Hence in former times the ordinances of trade guilds were largely concerned in devising checks against dishonesty, and in providing for the punishment of offenders. The Statutes of the Realm in like manner contain numerous enactments, having the same objects in view. One of the simplest and most common of the plans adopted in order to check fraud was to require that goods, before they were "put to sale," should bear certain appointed marks. It is a system which, in a modified form, has survived to the present day, and at one time it was of very general acceptance.

It is proposed in the present paper to draw attention to some of the more important enactments relating to the marking of goods, which are to be found in the older Statutes of the kingdom as passed by Parliament. At the outset, it may be well to point out that two kinds of marks were required; one was the private mark of the maker of the article, by which his identity could be established, and the other an official mark testifying to the genuine character of the particular article. Sometimes one or other of these marks by itself was deemed sufficient, but very frequently, as in the well-known case of hall-marks on gold and silver plate, a combination of the maker's mark and the official mark had to be used.

It would be difficult to say at exactly what period the system of marking goods was first introduced. It is a very natural device for checking fraud, and probably it prevailed from a very early period. One of the earliest references to it in the laws of the country is certainly that which is to be found in an enactment with reference to goldsmiths, in which as early as the twenty-eighth year of Edward I. (1299), it was ordered that the goldsmith "suffer no maner of vessell of golde or siluer to depart out of his hands, vntill it be assaied by the wardens of the craft. And further that it be marked with the Libardes head."\* A year or so later (1301, as it would seem), it was enacted "that every Baker have his proper marke for his bread." These are the two earliest references in the Statute Book. In the case of the goldsmiths in 1299, it will be observed that nothing is said of a private mark, and in the case of the bakers there is no reference to any official mark. From an entry quoted by Mr. H. Taylor, F.S.A., in the last number of the *Reliquary*, from the Chester Palatinate Recognizance Rolls, under date of June 21st, 1463, the sheriffs and Mayor of Chester were to enforce an ordinance "which had prevailed time out of mind in the City, that no one but such as had joined the craft of

\* The Acts of Parliament are quoted from Rastal's: *Collection in English of the Statutes now in force*, etc., London, 1588.

bakers of the City, and had deposited their mark in wax that their bread might be known, should make or sell bread in the City," etc. And, although we are dealing with the subject of English trade marks only, it may not be amiss to call attention to the bakers' marks registered at Aberdeen in 1457, and which are reproduced by Mr. Bain in the *History of the Aberdeen Incorporated Trades*, p. 213.

The marks which are still frequently made by bakers on the tops of what they call "cottage loaves," no doubt originated in the particular private mark which each baker was obliged to register, and to stamp on the bread he made in order that it might be the more readily identified, so that if his bread were found to be defective he could be duly punished.

Another comparatively early allusion to the use of an official mark occurs in an Act of Parliament passed in the second year of Edward III. (1327-8), wherein the King's alnegers are directed to measure cloths in the presence of the mayors or bailiffs, and such cloths as are found sufficient according to the Act are to be "marked by the Maior & bailifes where a Maior is, or by the baylifes where there is no Maior aswell as by the Aulnegeors." The references to, and directions concerning alnegers and the marking of different kinds of cloth, are so numerous that attention can only be drawn to a few of them. In the twenty-seventh year of Edward III. (1352-3), there is a direction that cloths not according to the proper measure shall not for the future be forfeited, "but the kinges Aulnegeor shall measure the cloth, and marke the same, by which marke a man may knowe how much the cloth conteineth." In the thirteenth year of Richard II. (1389), it was enacted that "No plaine cloth tacked nor folded shall bee set to sale within the sayde counties (Somerset, Dorchester, Bristow,\* and Gloucester), but that they be opened, vpon paine to forfait them, so that the buyers may see them, & know them, as it is vsed in the county of Essex, & that the workers, weauers and fullers, shall put to their seales to euery cloth that they shall worke, vpon a certaine paine to bee limited by the Justices of the peace."

In the fourth year of Henry IV. (1402), "One sufficient man" was to be appointed by the King to seal cloths, "wrought, wouen and fulled" in London and its suburbs, "with a seale of lead, as in olde time was vsed in the same citie and suburbs." Five years after this, an Act was passed which ordered that "No cloth called Kendall, whereof the dosein passeth not vjs. viij*d*. shall not bee sealed with none of the Kinges seales, nor aulnage great nor litle be payed for the same. And that the owners of such clothes may freely sell the same clothes not sealed without forfaiting anything to the King for the same, notwithstanding any statute or ordinance made to the contrarie." In the eleventh year of Henry IV. (1409), it was ordered that "A new Seale hauing a signe and a marke differing from the olde seale of the said office of aulnegeor shall be made and deliuered to the aulnegeors," further provision being made

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\* Bristol had been made a county of itself in 1373. It is still such.



for proclamation in "the West parties, and other places through the said realme" concerning its use.

In the fourth year of Edward IV. (1463-4), there is an interesting and important provision concerning the alnegers' seals as follows: "Also it is ordayned & enacted, that euery of the said clothes & demy clothes, shal perfectly and rightfully pursue & follow one order of workmanship from one end to the other, without difference in the weauing, fulling, knotting, or burling. And in case any such differēce or raw or skaw, cockel or fagge, happen to be in any part of the said clothes, streites or kerseis, that then a seale of lead therfore ordayned, & by the Treasurer of England for the time being provided, shalbe set & hanged in the lowest part of the edge of the same cloth, streit or kersey, for perfect knowledge to be had to the buyer thereof. And that euery of the said clothes, streit & kersey, of the length & bredth aforesaid, & also of the said perfection, shalbe from the feast of S. Peter *ad vincula*, sealed at y<sup>e</sup> end of the same with a double print in lead, deuised & ordayned by the said Treasurer, in record & witnes of the aforesaid true length, bredth, and making. And if any of the aforesaide clothes, streites and kerseis, do not containe the aforesaide length and bredth, or bee not of the perfecte workmanship aforesaid, and the two partes of the same clothes, streites or kerseis, be of the true and perfect workmanship aforesaid, keeping their said length and bredth: that then euery such cloth, streit, and kersey, shalbee sealed with the said seales in the forme aforesaid. And that euery half cloth containyng greater length then the halfe cloth, & lesse length then the whole cloth, of the sorts of the clothes aforesaid, being of the said perfect workmanship & bredth shalbe sealed with a seale printed in lead, hauing a Marke differing from both the seales aforesaid, in record and witnesse of the true length, bredth & making of the halfe cloth. And if any wollen cloth of any sorts of the clothes before recited, perfectly made, and having bredth after their sort before limited, containyng iij yards & demy, or more, less then the halfe cloth, be put to sale after the said feast: the same cloth shalbe sealed with a seale printed in lead, hauing a marke differing from any of the said seales, for a knowledge to be had of the default of the halfe cloth, the said seales to be deuised and ordained by the said Treasurer, & to be put at thend of euery of y<sup>e</sup> halfe clothes, & clothes lesse the halfe clothes. Also by thaduise, assent, and auctoritie aforesaid, it is ordained & established, that the Treasurer of Englad for the time being, shal haue power & auctoritie to make such & as many keepers of the said seales as he shal think necessarie: So that no stranger borne, be made any of the said keepers." The Act then proceeds to impose penalties on sealers who should seal cloths fraudulently.

In the eighth year of Edward IV., it was enacted that after the first of August, 1468, "broad set clothes & streit set clothes" made in Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex were to be of certain goodness and sizes, and before being put to sale were to: "be sealed by y<sup>e</sup> kinges aulnegeor or sealer, with the seals of the subsidie & aulnage within euery of the said counties therefore ordeined, printed in waxe."

In the seventeenth year of Edward IV. (1476-7), it was enacted that "All the woollen clothes, halfe clothes, streites and kerseis being of good & perfect making of length and bredth, after the forme of the said act made in the said iiij yere shalbe sealed wyth waxe at both endes taking no more for the same both seales, then before was taken for the sealing of an whole cloth, half cloth, streit or kersey: except onely that in the Citie of London, & in the towne of Bristow, al the clothes that ought to be sealed, shalbe sealed with Leade as hath bene there accustomed."

A very interesting description of the seals to be used, occurs in an Act of the first year of Richard III. (1483), which, after fixing the sizes and weights of various kinds of cloth, proceeds as follows:

"Also before the said feast [Michaelmas] Seales shall be provided and ordeined by the Treasurer of England to be printed in leade hauinge the Kinges armes of England on the one side, and in the other side the armes, signe, or token of euery citie borough\*or towne within this Realme of England, where cloth is made, hauing such armes, signe, or token for a marke, or an evident token & knowledge of the cloth made within euery such citie, borough, and towne of this Realme, and besides the seales for every countie of this Realme, for the sealing of all maner cloth made within euery countie, out of citie, borough, or towne of the said county, shal haue on the one side the kinges armes, & on the other side the name of the countie printed in the same."

In the fifth year of Henry VIII. (1513), there is a reference to the maker placing his mark on certain kinds of cloth in the following terms: "No person make such cloths (called white straites) to sell without that it be when it is raw readie to be tucked, of the bredth of a yard & halfe a quarter, and of length xv yardes. And that no person make such clothes, but he sett his speciall marke vpon euery of the said clothes, so by him or them made. And that no person vse no marke on his clothes such as any other person doth and hath vsed beefore him," etc.

Another Act, passed in the twenty-fifth year of Henry VIII. (1533), refers to cloths made in the "city of Worcester, the borowghes and townes of Euesham, Dortwich, Kadderminste, and Bromesgroue" and enjoins that "there shal bee due searche made of euery such cloth beforesaid there made, & that they be meated both length & bredth being wet from the mill, and before they be set vpon the racke & dried; and that they shalbe sealed with y<sup>e</sup> seale of the searcher or the same Citie, towne or borowgh, which seale shal haue a stamp containing the true numbers for the length & bredth of the same cloth being wet," etc. In 1535, an Act required "All & euery clothier within this Realme" to "weaue or cause to be wouen his or their seuerall token or marke in all & euery cloth, kersey, & other cloths whatsoever they be, made & wrought to be vttered and sold. And when any such cloth shall be ready made & dressed to be put to sale, euery of the same clothiers shall set his seale of leade vnto euery of the same his or their clothes and kerseis, in which seale of leade shall be contained the true & iust length of

euery of the same clothes or kerseis, as it shalbe duely found by euery buyer of y<sup>e</sup> same upon due prooffe therof to be tried by y<sup>e</sup> water."

In spite of these provisions, fraud still prevailed, and an Act of the third and fourth years of Edward VI., after referring to the fact that "by subtil making of cloths & colours, great slaunder hath growen to the realme, & great losse ensued to the kings subiects by the vse & wearing of the same," proceeds to enact, that after the ensuing feast of the Annunciation of our Lady, every "clothier & clothmaker" shall "set his seale of lead to his cloth, declaring thereby the iust length thereof, to be tried by the water." Another provision of the same Act requires that "euery Clothier shall before such time as he shall put hys cloth to sale, being made after the said feast, cause euery cloth to be marked wyth a letter **E** crowned, wrought in the cloth." A little later, in the fifth year of the same king (1550-1), another Act dealing with fraud was passed, in the preamble of which complaint is made that the cloth makers "not onely procure the Aulnegeor to set the Kinges Seale to such false and faulty cloth, but do weaue into the same the likenes of the Kinges Imperial Crowne, and also the first letter of hys name, which should be testimonies of trueth to the great slaunder of the kinge, and the shame of this lande, and to the vtter destruction of so notable a commoditie, as the lyke is not in any forreine nation." The provisions of the Act are many, and they contain frequent allusions to the seals and marks to be used. It is impossible to quote them all; the borough seals to be used were to have, not only the town arms, but also the name of the town, engraved on them. A fresh enactment required that "any of the clothes being coloured or died, so made after the said feast" [Michaelmas], and being found "either cockly, pursy, boudy, squally, or rowy, or euyll burled, or wasted in the mille, or full of holes or brackes: that then the same searcher or searchers shal besides the seale of the Citie, borough, or towne corporate where the same cloth shalbe found, put another seale of lead, at euery end of the said cloth wherein shalbe grauen the letter **F** and shall also set a marke in the lyst, right against such place where any of the faults aforesaid shalbe, with the print of a Letter or marke of an ynch compasse at the least, whereby euery buyer may well know what and where the fault is." The Act also provided that the letter **E** crowned should not be used for the space of two years, in order to make a difference between the cloth manufactured previous to the passing of the Act, and that made afterwards.

In the reign of Philip and Mary the letter **M** crowned was ordered to be used, and the word **Faultie** in place of the letter **F**. Subsequently, in the eighth year of Elizabeth (1565), an Act relating to the sale of cloth in Lancashire required that: "Any kind of Clothes, Cottons, frizes or rugges hereafter to be made within the said Countie Palantine of Lancaster" before they were put to sale should have "one seale of Lead, hauinge the marke of euery such owner or clothier, ingraued on y<sup>e</sup> one side thereof, and the true length of euery such cloth, frize, cotton or rugge, as it is found being wette, to

be ingraued on the other side of the said seale." The alneger was also directed to "fixe and put, or cause to be fixed and put to euery such cotton, frise, and rugge the Queenes highnesse seale of Lead, hauing the Portculleis crowned, ingraued on the one side thereof, and the true weight of euery such cotton frise or rugge to be ingraued on the other side of the said seale." Finally, in the twenty-third year of Elizabeth (1580), certain "blacke clothes kerseis, or friseadowes, maddered & not woaded" were to be sealed "with a seale of lead to euery of them, in which the letter **M** signifying maddered shalbe contained."

It may be well before leaving the subject of marking cloth to note with regard to foreign cloths of different kinds that in an Act relating to the Customs it had been enjoined in the twelfth year of Edward IV. (1471-2) that:

"No Marchant denizen or straunger, shal set or suffer any cloth of gold, of siluer, bawdkin, veluet, damask, sattē, tartaron or chamblet, nor none other cloth of silk, nor any corse of silk and of golde, nor of silke of the making of any of the parties beyond the Sea to sel, before that the collectors of the subsidy of tonnage and pondage & the comptroller of the same in the port where such Marchandises is set vpon land, hath surveyed and measured the same, and hath sealed every peece thereof in the one ende thereof, with the seale or marke especially to bee ordeined for the same, whereof the same collectors haue the one part, and the Comptroller haue the other part seuerally in their custody. And if any such cloth of gold, of siluer, bawdkin, veluet, damask, satten, sarcenet, tartaron, chamblet, & cloth of silk and of gold, be any time hereafter set to sale not sealed, nor hauing such seale thereuppon: That then he which setteth such marchandise to sale, shal forfait y<sup>e</sup> same marchandise or the value thereof, wherof two parts shall be to the king & the third part to the fineder."

Leaving for the present the marking of cloth, we pass on to the consideration of other articles which were required to bear private or official marks before they were "put to sale."

Leather, like cloth, from an early date, had to be sealed with an official mark, but the Acts of Parliament which relate to this, and which were consolidated during the reign of Elizabeth, do not enter into particulars concerning the character of the marks to be used, and beyond noting the fact that leather had to be officially marked before being put to sale, we may conveniently to consider the enactments made by Parliament with regard to some other trades.

In the seventh year of Henry IV. (1405) an Act was passed relating to arrowsmiths, stating that:

"Whereas Arrowsmithes doo make faulty heads of arrowes and quarrels not defensible, to the great preiudice of the people and Realme: Bee it &c. That all the heades for arrowes and quarrels\* after this time to bee made shalbee well boyled or brazed, and

\* Quarrel—an arrow with a square head. Cf. French *quadreau*; Italian *quadrella*.—*Johnson's Dictionary*.

hardened at the pointes with steele, and if any of the sayde arrow-smithes doo the contrarie, they shall forfait al such heades and quarrels to the kinge, and shalbe also emprisoned and make a fine at the kings will. And that euery arrowhead & quarrell be marked with the Marke of him that made the same. And the Justices of peace in euery County of Englande, and also the Maior and Sherifes, and Bailifes of Cities and Boroughs within the same Cities and Boroughs, shall haue power to enquire of all such deceytfull makers of heades and quarrels, and to punishe them as afore is sayd."

There is an interesting reference to the marking of keel boats which were to carry coal from Newcastle, as early as the fifth year of Henry V. (1416-7), but this must be regarded as akin to the official marking of weights and measures, which is rather a different, though cognate, matter to the marking of goods before they were allowed to be sold. The enactment, however, is a short one, and being of considerable interest may be conveniently quoted. It is as follows :

"All the Keeles which now be and hereafter shall be in the said port [Newcastle] shall be measured by certaine commissioners thereto to be assigned by the king, and marked, of what portage they be, before that anie cariage be made by the same, vpon forfeiture to the king all the vessels called keeles, by which anie such coles shall be caried, before that they be marked in the maner aforesaid."

There is also a good deal relating to the marks to be used by worsted makers in Norfolk. In the seventh year of Edward IV. (1466-7) it was enacted that "no man of the said craft make any worsted, vnlesse he put his proper marke fixed or wouen vpon ye same, by the ordinance of ye said Wardens, or els the same worsted to bee forfeite to our Soueraigne lord the king"; and it was further enjoined that the wardens should make due search, and if they found the worsted "well and lawfully made, that then such a marke or token shall bee set by the said wardens, or by one of them, without fine or fee vpon the same, so that all buyers may well knowe, which piece is sufficiently and rightfully searched and wrought." By an Act of the fourteenth year of Henry VIII. (1522) regulations were made concerning the making of worsted at Great Yarmouth and Lynn. With regard to Yarmouth, it was enacted that the worsted makers should yearly choose a warden of their craft there, who should be a householder and worth at least ten pounds. The warden so chosen was to be sworn before the Mayor of Norwich, and was to have "a seale with this letter **W** to bee grauen in the same seale," and have "full power and authoritie to viewe, search, seale, and seale in leade with the same seale so to be appointed and engrauen & none other, all Worsteds, Sayes, and Stammins, within the said Towne of Yarmouth, and suburbs of the same, made or to bee made, & not els where" etc. With regard to Lynn, provision was made that whenever there were ten householders there who followed the craft of worsted weaving, that then a warden might be chosen, who should use a seal with the letter **L** engraved in it, with which to mark the

"worsted sayes, and stammins" made there. In both cases it was further enacted, that the wardens should keep books in which they were to register the different private marks which they had assigned to each of the worsted weavers.

Hats and caps had also to be marked. By an Act passed in the third year of the reign of Henry VIII. (1511), which after settling the prices which were to be charged for different kinds of caps, it was ordered that :

"The cappe made of the said fynest Leeminster wooll to be marked in the lynng of the same cappe with a letter **L**. The cap made of the second sort of the same Leeminster wooll, to be marked with this marke **L. R.** The cap made of the finest Cotswold wooll to be marked with the letter **C** in the lynng thereof. And the cap made of the second sort of Cotswold wooll, to bee marked with this letter **C. R.**"

In an Act passed in the twenty third year of Elizabeth (1580) regarding wax, there are some interesting references to marks. For example, it was enacted "that euery melter and maker vp of vnwrought waxe, shall haue for himselfe a stamp, or marke of the breadth of six pence, wherein two letters shalbe plainly grauen, signifying his name and surname, and with the same shall stampe euery piece of Waxe, to be printed or stamped triangle, in three places vpon the outside of the vpper part of euery piece so melted and cast." A succeeding clause in the same Act forbade any person, after the ensuing feast of Pentecost, to : "melt, mixe, work, or sell any maner of wrought waxe, stuffe, or Wares wrought with Waxe, as in Lights, Staffetorches, Red Waxe or Sealing Waxe, Bookecandle, Searing candle, Searing of dead corpes, Linckes, Greene Waxe, Red Waxe or any other worke or thing whatsoever, to bee done or wrought with Waxe to be put to sale, but with good, holsome, pure, and conuenient stuffe, meete in such wares or worke in conuenient quantities to bee vsed. And that euery person or persons, that shall worke or sell such stuffe, or wares of waxe, haue a Marke, Stampe, or Seale, to set on his or their worke, by him or them wrought or solde, to the intent, that if any deceit be vsed or done, it may bee knowne who were the workers thereof etc." Another clause of the same Act ordered "that all barrels, kilderkins and firkins filled with hony, by the maker and filler, shalbe marked with two letters standing for his name and surname, each letter of an inche and a halfe of length at the least, burnt vpon the heade of the caske, with a whot yron."

As regards the marking of barrels generally, there was an earlier and very interesting Act passed in the twenty-third year of Henry VIII. (1531). After reciting that the Act was passed to "redresse the abuses of Ale and Beere brewers in making of Barrels, kilderkins & firkins in their owne houses of lesse quantitie than they ought to be," it proceeds to limit the making of such vessels to the cowpers only, and required each artificer of that craft to "put his proper marke" upon every vessel he made. A further clause of the Act is as follows : "And also be it &c. that the Wardens of the occupation or



mystery of Cowpers within the Citie of London, from henceforth at all times hereafter, when they shall think conuenient & expedient, taking with them an Officer of the Maiors, shall haue full power & auctoritie by vertue of this acte, to seache, view & gauge all maner of such barrells, kilderkins, firkins, & other vessels to bee made or occupied, for Ale, Beere, or Sope to be put to sale within the city of London and suburbs of the same, & within two miles compas without the same suburbs, to view and see that the same barrells, kilderkins, firkins, and other vessels, aswel within liberties as without, bee made & marked wel and sufficiently, & beare and containe their true contentes, rates, and measures, according to the effecte of this estatute. And also to marke euery such barrel, kilderkin, firkin, & other vessel by them so viewed & gauged, bearing & containing their true contents, with the signe & token of a Saint Anthonies crosse, the same Wardens to haue for the seache & gauging of euery such barrell, kilderkin, firkin, & other vessel by them so searched, viewed, gauged, & marked, one farthing & not aboue, of the owners or makers of the said vessels."

This reference to the "signe & token of a Saint Anthonies crosse" affords a clue to the origin of the double and treble X with which brewers still affect to mark their barrells. It is possible, too, that in it we have the origin of the crowned X stamped on pewter wares. With regard to the marks of pewterers and goldsmiths, so much has already been written in our own pages and elsewhere concerning them, that it is unnecessary to say more respecting either here. In the elaboration of hall-marks on gold and silver plate, the system of marking goods put to sale attained no doubt its highest development. It is a system which has in some measure lost its value, except in the modified form in which it is retained in the present day. Cognate to it may be mentioned the official marking of weights and measures, but it would prolong this paper to too great an extent, to enter into that part of the subject. It may be pointed out, however, that it is only within the last five or six years that the ancient town marks on weights have been superseded by the Local Government Board for a registered number, and the letters V R crowned. The old town marks for weights would, if tabulated, form a valuable and useful list, and give a clue in many cases to the unidentified marks sometimes found on pieces of old English provincial silver, such, for instance, as the Catherine-wheel mark in Yorkshire, the fleur-de-lys mark in the eastern counties, as well as others less known.



## Inventory of Lord Montegle's Jewels.

THERE are preserved at the Public Record Office some important inventories of the goods and effects of Lord Montegle,\* several of which were "made at Horneby by S<sup>r</sup> Henry Kighley Knight & Oy<sup>r</sup> [other] by vertue of the Kinges Commission to theym directed the xx day of Aprill in the xiiij<sup>th</sup> yeere of Kynge Henry the viij<sup>th</sup>." From those inventories the following list of Lord Montegle's Jewels has been transcribed. It contains several curious and highly instructive entries, and will be read with interest. The contractions have been expanded, and are printed in italic characters.

*P.R.O. State Papers Henry VIII. Vol. III. No. 2968, fo. 130.*

### Jewels

- In *primis* a Girdill of gold of parys wark weynge xxij vnces.  
 Item A Coler of gold of Dropes weynge xij vnces.  
 Item A Coler of gold of white & Rede Roses w<sup>t</sup> blewe panses.†  
 Item A Rede Tynsell purse.  
 Item in it A lase w<sup>t</sup> v syngle Dukkettes & a worne pece of gold like a forty pence of siluer & gilt.  
 Item in the same purse a litle aglett of gold white enameled.  
 Item in the same purse a Corse of Damask for a girdill.  
 Item a Grene veluett purse.  
 Item A Girdill of blew Ribanne w<sup>t</sup> a Dymysyn‡ of Crowne gold hauynge a Red Rose of it.  
 Item a broken Cheyne of gold of xlvij lynkes of paris warke.  
 Item iiij pipes of gold for a Bonnett.  
 Item a round Crosse of gold w<sup>t</sup> a hert at it enamelled like Stone3.  
 Item vij Aglettes of gold iij square & enamelled.  
 Item a new demyserie§ of gold enamelled w rede Roses & white Roses.  
 Item ij Emeraldes sett in gold.  
 Item a white Saphire.  
 Item ij Vnburred perles.  
 Item a Clasje of Siluer & gilt w<sup>t</sup> the legges of Man|| enamelled on it.  
 Item a Bolt of Siluer & gilt like a Regester for A Booke.¶  
 Item a litle box of Siluer w<sup>t</sup> a penny in it.

\* Sir Edward Stanley, Knt., a younger son of Thomas first Earl of Derby, was created Lord Montegle 6 Henry VIII. for his services at Flodden Field. On St. George's Day, 1514, he was elected Knight of the Order of the Garter. Lord Montegle died in 1524.

† This collar of Tudor roses and blue pansies must have been a beautiful object.

‡ ? a demi-sun.

§ Demyserie—the meaning of this word is doubtful.

|| Thomas, Earl of Derby, father of Lord Montegle, was Lord of the Isle of Man.

¶ *i.e.*, a book marker.

- Item a Crosse of *Diamondes* w<sup>t</sup> a grete perle at it.  
 Item a Saynt John hede sett in gold.\*  
 Item a pomawnder w<sup>t</sup> Stones & perles.  
 Item a Broche like a losynge of gold of paris worke.  
 Item a Rynge of gold that hath bene ennamelled.  
 Item a Rynge of gold w<sup>t</sup> a Roke Ruby in it ennamelled w<sup>t</sup> rede hartes.  
 Item a Rynge of gold w<sup>t</sup> a table Diamond in it ennamelled w<sup>t</sup> rede Drope3.  
 Item a Crosse of gold w<sup>t</sup> iiij Rubies & *Diamondes* & v perles.  
 Item ij Aglettes or pipes of gold of paris wark for a Girdle.  
 Item a playne square Crosse of gold w<sup>t</sup> a perle at it.  
 Item vj pipes of gold of paris wark.  
 Item a flflowerdelice of gold w<sup>t</sup> v *Diamondes* in it.  
 Item a Doble Roose of gold.  
 Item ij litle bottons of gold blew ennamelled.  
 Item ij Strynges of perles a grete & a lesse the greter conteynynge Cxlj grete perles & the lesse conteynynge lxij smaller perles.  
 Item a Strynge of perles conteynynge lviiij small perles & xxij beades of gold of ij & and two togidders.  
 Item iiij Spone3 of boone w<sup>t</sup> Joyntes of Siluer.  
 Item iij Garters w<sup>t</sup> Bokelles & pendants of gold.  
 Item a litle pece of lether & in it A vnbores perle.  
 Item a Chayne of gold w<sup>t</sup> a George at it that my lorde ware dayly.  
 Item a paire of Beades of Jevte† w<sup>t</sup> gaudes & ij beades of gold on eyther Side of theym.  
 Item a pare of beades of Ancellalence‡ w<sup>t</sup> gaudes of gold & ij perles.  
 Item a pare of beades of Ten wrought w<sup>t</sup> the nedle.  
 Item a pare of beades of Almer|| w<sup>t</sup> gaudies of gold.  
 Item a pare of beades of Almer w<sup>t</sup> gaudies of Corall.  
 Item a pare of beades of Corall w<sup>t</sup> a Rynge of golde w<sup>t</sup> a Ruby in it at theym.  
 Item iij botons of gold & Square.  
 Item a Crucifix of siluer & gilt w<sup>t</sup> mary and John.  
 Item a pare of pardon beades of v wrought w<sup>t</sup> the nedle.  
 Item a Rynge of golde crakked in the side w<sup>t</sup> a Turkes in it.  
 Item ij Seriannt Rynge of Gold.  
 Item a ffeto' lokk of siluer and gilt.  
 Item a Chape & a lawpe of siluer gilt for a dagger.  
 Item xiiij Aglettes of gold like Ackorns.  
 Item xxv lesse Aglettes of gold ennamelled.  
 Item a fflewe of Siluer for a bottell.

\* On fo. 154 is the inventory of things "In the Nurcery," among which the following item occurs:—"Item ij Images one of Jhesus & one other of Saynt Johns hede." See also under "Testamenta Antiqua" in the present number of the *Reliquary*, p. 108.

† i.e., jet.

‡ Ancellalence—the meaning of this word is doubtful.

|| i.e., amber.

- Item a Rose of Gold rede ennamelled w<sup>t</sup> a greate table Diamond in it and a perle at it.\*  
 Item a flowerdelice of diamondes w<sup>t</sup> iij perles.  
 Item an ymage of saynt Anthony of gold.  
 Item ix round flatt bottoms of gold paris wark.  
 Item iiij<sup>vv</sup> olde half pence in a bledder.  
 Item ij Aglettes of gold iij square ennamelled.  
 Item a round broche of Camahewet sett in gold.  
 Item a pare of hokes of gold.  
 Item a litle haft of gold of paris warke.  
 Item a pare of beades of white almer.  
 Item a flowre of gold rede & grene ennamelled w<sup>t</sup> a perle at it.  
 Item ix pipes of gold of paris werk.  
 Item a blak velvett Bonnett that my lorde ware w<sup>t</sup> vj litle Aglettes of gold & A rounde Broche of Gold on it.  
 Item a Bell of gold that was made for warming my lordes drynkes.

## Roxby, and the Brass of Thomas Boynton, Esquire.

THREE miles inland from the village of Hinderwell, on the line of railway between Whitby and Saltburn, and on rising ground on the brow of a hill, standing almost entirely alone, is the little chapel of Roxby. The name has been variously spelt in recent times as Roysby, Rowsby, and Roxby; but the latter spelling represents the pronunciation of the name at the present day. In Domesday, the forms are Roscebi and Rozebi, and Dr. Atkinson is of opinion that the Rosce or Roze is the possessive of a man's name, which would give the meaning of the name of the place, as the "by" of one Rosce or Roze. According to Kirkby's "Inquest," the Boyntons were seized of the manor of Roxby in the time of Edward I., and they continued its proprietors until Sir Griffith Boynton sold the property at the end of last century.

The chapel, which is dependent on the mother church of Hinderwell, is generally said to have been "rebuilt" in the year 1818, but this is not strictly the case, as the south wall, with its doorway and windows, is manifestly a work of the seventeenth century. There are, however, no remains of the original chapel, which was first constructed according to Graves in the reign of Henry V., but more probably not until the reign of Henry VII.†

\* Against this item is written in the margin, "Chosen by the Kinges grace for the Diamond my lorde bequethed to his grace." There are several marginal notes to other items of the inventory referring to the disposal of the items. They are, however, of no general interest, and are therefore omitted here.

† Camahewe=cameo.

† *History of Cleveland*, p. 326. Henry V. is perhaps merely a misprint for Henry VII.



BRASS OF THOMAS BOYNTON, ESQUIRE, ROXBV.

Close to the chapel stood the manor-house of the Boyntons, but only a small angle of one corner of the house remains, although several carved stones evidently taken from its walls are now included in the wall which surrounds the chapel yard. They are all of the seventeenth century. It may be of interest to mention that each spring considerable quantities of snowdrops of an unusually large kind still blossom profusely in what was once the flower-garden surrounding the old house. The situation is remarkably fine, commanding an extensive view over the undulating country in the foreground, and comprising a wide survey of the sea below. It is, however, an exceedingly exposed position, fully open to the force and fury of north-easterly gales. At what time the house fell into disuse and decay is not known, but with the exception of a few small cottages a little higher up than the chapel, nothing remains at Roxby now but the chapel itself. This, no doubt, was originally the private chapel of the Boyntons, and used for convenience by the surrounding inhabitants, who would be only retainers and tenants on the estate.

It is now an uninteresting, plain, oblong building, with a small tower at the west end in which are hung two bells, one of which is of some age, and may have been the original bell of the old chapel. When Graves wrote, the chapel had not been re-constructed, and was very likely much in the condition which the Reformation had left it. He says very little about it beyond recording the inscriptions on the monuments, but he adds: "In the centre division of the eastern window, there are four effigies in painted glass; one of which bears the arms of Boynton: these are probably the effigies of benefactors, who contributed to the building or repairs of the chapel."\* It is, perhaps, hardly necessary to mention that these effigies have since perished, destroyed no doubt when the chapel was "re-built" in 1818.

On a slab in the centre of the floor is the brass of the founder, Thomas Boynton, Esquire, who died in 1520. He was the son of Henry Boynton, Esquire, and married Cecily, daughter of James Strangeways, Esquire,† of Sneaton, near Whitby, and his will, which is preserved at York, has been printed in the *Testamenta Eboracensia* series of the Surtees Society.‡ It will be seen that the brass consists of a full length figure in armour with a detached legend below, and with four shields, irregularly placed at each corner. The slab measures rather more than six feet in length, and is two feet six inches in width. The brass has been relaid, and the greater portion of the sword broken away. The figure measures 24 inches in length, and each of the shields is charged with the Boynton arms: *a fesse between three crescents*. In the illustration the two lower shields have been brought nearer to the legend and figure, in order to avoid too great a reduction of the whole in size. The interest of

\* Page 327.

† It is perhaps hardly necessary to say that the ancient family of Boynton still flourishes in the East Riding of Yorkshire, and is represented by Sir Henry Boynton, Bart., of Burton Agnes.

‡ Vol. V., No. 90.

the brass lies mainly in the legend, its wording, and the information it contains. It reads as follows :

prug for the soule of Thom's Boynton of Bopsby Esquier who  
caused this chyrche fyrst to be hylowed & was y<sup>e</sup> fyrst corse that  
was bered in yt & decessed the xxix day of marche the yer of o<sup>r</sup> lord  
god m<sup>i</sup> b<sup>e</sup> nnd xxiiij on whose soule Jhu haue mercy amen

It may be added that Roxby chapel also contains a marble altar tomb, enclosed by iron rails, to the memory of Frances, the wife of Sir Matthew Boynton. She died in 1634. And a ledger stone to the memory of the Lady Katherine (died 1666), the wife of Sir Arthur Ingram, of Temple Newsam. The inscriptions on both of these are given in full by Graves. It is also worthy of notice that several of the paving-stones in the chancel, near the pulpit, appear to have borne portions of a long inscription in black letter characters which have since been defaced by a mason's chisel.

## A Fourteenth Century Record of the Weather.

BY EDWARD PEACOCK, F.S.A.

THERE are not many departments of knowledge in which more satisfactory progress has been made during the last half century than in our appreciation of the men and things of the Middle Ages. We use the word appreciation rather than knowledge, for the older writers were many of them not so deficient as to mere facts as we are many of us now inclined to suppose. What they lacked was the power of entering into the minds of men in a state of civilization so very far different from their own, and standing, as it seemed to them, in such painful contrast with the eras of Greek and Roman culture that had gone before. To hold the balance evenly between the past and the present is, we believe at present, almost impossible. If it should ever be done with any degree of success, the person attempting it must not only possess an amount of fact-knowledge equal to that of Montfaucon, but he must be raised above all the passions and prejudices—social, theological, and political—of his own time. We shall have very long to wait for such a miracle of passionless scholarship. In the meantime, it is useful, bit by bit, to put together those things which throw light on what, to employ a misused term, is called the culture of the Middle Ages.

The term, Middle Ages, is used in various ways. With some, they begin with the conversion of Constantine; with others, from the restoration of the empire by Charles the Great. We believe that Continental writers commonly make them end in 1453, when the

Eastern empire fell, on the death of the last Constantine while defending his capital against the Asiatic hordes led by Mohammed the Second. With us it is more common to begin the modern time with the accession to the throne of Henry the Eighth. For this division we have what amounts to the authority of Her Majesty's Government. The Rolls series of "Chronicles and Memorials" is intended, we believe, to contain nothing relating to a more recent time than 1509.

All such divisions are purely arbitrary. They are useful enough for scholars and those who, though not scholars, have the historical instinct; but they are more noxious than can well be believed in their effects on the great herd of men and women who are deficient in that faculty, and who, consequently, have possessed themselves with the notion that there was a real break between ancient, medieval, and modern times. The late Professor Freeman did much towards uprooting this very stupid superstition, but prejudices of this kind are as difficult to kill as the American weed which infests our trout streams and ditches. Within the last year or two we have met with this nonsense in more than one book, which, but for this glaring defect, did credit to their authors.

When we ourselves use such terms as Middle Ages, Middle Time, or Medieval, we mean the period embraced between the year 800, when Charles the Great was crowned Emperor of the West by Pope Leo the Third, and the year 1500. It is a compact seven hundred years, including the birth of the new Christian empire, the creation of most of the present nationalities of Europe, the death of the old heathenisms, the growth of the temporal power of the Holy See over kings, the invention of rag-made paper and the printing-press, and, above all, the discovery of the new world beyond the waters of the Atlantic. This division is as useful for what it excludes as that which it embraces. To the modern era belongs the Reformation, the wars of religion, and the other tremendous issues to which that movement has given rise. Though we are affected every hour of our lives by the actions, and still more by the thoughts of the men of the Middle Ages, yet such is the effect of the obscuring power of distance, that the men who flourished at the close of that time seem almost infinitely further removed from us than do the subjects of Charles the Fifth and Francis the First.

There are but very few educated people of the present day who show the unreasoning contempt for the men of the Middle Time with which the pages of Voltaire, Robertson, Joseph Milner, Berington, and those of whom they may be accepted as types, may be not unfairly said to bristle. In every country in Europe the appreciation of medieval art has gone far, and the old literatures, at least in the vernaculars of the various states, are being carefully preserved by the printing press. We are, therefore, in a somewhat better position than our forefathers. On some subjects, at least, we can estimate the intellectual position of our medieval ancestors, with fewer chances of error than could any of those who have gone before us.

Though the whole of the period concerning which we are speaking



was distracted by savage wars, not only between states, but between powerful subjects, and in its earlier years was harassed by the inpour of barbarians, yet progress in almost all the arts of life, if slow, was continuous. The tribal dialects consolidated themselves into languages, and we trust we need not point out that in power of abstract thought the schoolmen have had no superiors. It is not the question at issue whether their philosophy was right or wrong, fruitful or unfruitful. As an evidence of speculative power directed to the most abstruse subjects, nothing before or after can be quoted that takes higher rank than the writings of St. Anselm, Abelard (the father of modern rationalism), Occam, Hayles, Albert the Great, and towering high above all the rest, the Angel of the Schools, Saint Thomas of Aquin.

There is one class of subjects, however—one, perhaps, somewhat over-valued in these days—wherein the men of the Middle Ages made little progress. In matters of physical science we do not find that at the end of this term men had advanced in knowledge much beyond the point whereat Aristotle and Pliny had left off. Great encyclopedic gatherers of facts they had, such as our own Bartholomew Glanville, and, above all, Vincent of Beauvais, but we apprehend that if any industrious student would compare these great collections with the physicists of Greece and Rome, the original matter that they would detect would be very small indeed. The reasons for this are not easy of discovery. We may, perhaps, recur to the matter at a future time. At present, it is sufficient to remark that a mind like that of Roger Bacon, who seems to have anticipated in more than one direction the scientific standpoint of the nineteenth century, has been considered an almost unique fact, worthy of far more attention than it has received.

We ourselves have always maintained that Roger Bacon is but a type of a class of enquirers who, under great disadvantages, were working on those problems which nature is ever offering for our contemplation. More evidence for this exists than many of us suppose. Last year we were more surprised and delighted than we can express, by a most unexpected confirmation of our opinion, or guess, if the sceptical reader chooses to call it so.

In the autumn of 1891, a friend sent us a thin folio volume entitled: *Consideraciones Temperiei pro 7 Annis per Magistrum Willielmum Merle Socium Domus de Merton: The Earliest Known Journal of the Weather, 1337-1344*. This precious record has existed unknown from Merle's day, until it was discovered last year. We perhaps exaggerate when we say unknown, for Dr. Plott, the Oxfordshire naturalist and antiquary of Charles the Second's days, had seen and made a note of it, but his memorandum had been passed over unheeded until 1890, when Dr. Hellman, of Berlin, coming upon it in an old volume of the *Philosophical Transactions*, caused a paragraph relating thereto to be inserted in the *Meteorological Magazine*. This note attracted the attention of an Englishman then residing at Florence, who wrote home concerning it. The manuscript was soon found, and promptly photographed, translated, and published.

The interest of a series of memoranda of this kind, extending over seven years, cannot easily be exaggerated. It is of two kinds. It is almost like a miracle that a diary of the weather, as it was in the fourteenth century, should have come down to us, as carefully and accurately kept as if it had been done by some ordinary man or woman of to-day. It is still more interesting to find that in the reign of Edward the Third there was an obscure ecclesiastic who was so intelligent as to know that careful observations of natural phenomena were not useless. The world changes but little, and that little very slowly. We should like to know what Merle's friends thought of him for thus "wasting" his time in unprofitable labour. This we shall never discover, but the experience of the nineteenth century makes us pretty sure that his younger friends jeered at him behind his back, and his elders gave him good advice, pointing out that if he must devote himself to acquiring knowledge, alchemy, astrology, and chiromancy were much more useful studies. So it is now with a mere change in the names of things, so we cannot doubt it was when the Black Death was hovering over us.

Of William Merle there is at present hardly anything known beyond the fact that he was a Fellow of Merton College, Oxford, and that he was rector at Driby, a little village in Lincolnshire, near Alford. That his father was also called William is shown by the Episcopal registers of the See, and we gather, moreover, that he was presented to his benefice by a certain John Harsyk. His death took place in 1347. This is all that the editors of his note-book have been able to discover. We trust that further enquiries may be made.

The editor thinks that the name of Merle is now extinct in this country, and surmises, on very insufficient grounds, that he may have been of Norman extraction. He fancies that he has detected Norman place-names in Lincolnshire. This is a mistake, as could easily be demonstrated if it were worth while; but were it true, it would not help to prove that Merle was a Norman. We have no evidence on the point, therefore it would be childish to venture on a confident opinion. It is true that in French, Merle means a black-bird, and that by transference it has found a place in more than one of our Northern dialects.

Merry it is in the good green-wood,  
When the mavis and merle are singing,  
When the deer sweeps by, and the hounds are in cry,  
And the hunter's horn is ringing.

So sings Sir Walter Scott in the *Lady of the Lake*.\* Without being a foreigner, this Fellow of Merton may very well have had a surname taken from bird-life. We have Wren, Hawke, Swallow, Sparrow, and probably a dozen more. That he was not a transmarine priest is rendered the more probable by the fact that about the time when he flourished there were other persons called Merle living in Lincolnshire and Kent.

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\* Canto iv. stanza xii.

The most curious thing about this old weather-diary is the fact that it is kept in so very modern a manner. We could not show what we mean without reprinting a longer portion than there is space for. There is no folk-lore in it from beginning to end; all is clear and straightforward. We will reproduce the entry for 28th March, 1343. "Stormy, with very strong N.W. wind, and with hail, rain, and snow very often in the day. At mid-day, there was an earthquake, which was so great that in certain parts of Lyndesay the stones in the stone chimneys fell down, after shaking in very great agitation, and it lasted long enough for the *salutatio angelica* to be said distinctly." This note is by no means the most interesting of Merle's observations. We have selected it on account of the mention of the earthquake, and also because it speaks of stone chimneys. There is an unfounded prejudice abroad that in the Middle Ages chimneys, such as we know them, were not in use. The priest's measuring time by the angelic salutation is quaint and amusing. It must be borne in mind that in the days when Merle lived the "Hail Mary" ended with the words to be found in Holy Scripture.

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## Testamenta Antiqua.\*

### I.

#### THE WILL AND INVENTORY OF RICHARD COLLYNS, CITIZEN AND HABERDASHER OF LONDON, 1523.

THE following will and inventory, which are full of interesting matter, are evidently those of a west countryman, from Devonshire, who had come to seek his fortune in London, and had found it there. Nothing more is known of him. Kingswear, where he seems to have had a relative residing, and from whence he had perhaps come, is a parish and small village picturesquely situated on the eastern bank of the river Dart, directly opposite Dartmouth. The church of St. Martin in the Vintry was not rebuilt after the Fire of London, when the parish was united with that of St. Michael, Paternoster Royal, and St. Michael's Church was made to serve for both parishes. The Haberdashers of London were first incorporated as a gild in honour of St. Katherine by Henry VI., in 1448; they now form one of the twelve "great" London companies in order of civic precedence.

*Public Record Office, State Papers, Henry VIII., Vol. iii., 3175.*

In the name of god Amen the xij day of July yn the yere of ower lord god a thowsand fyve hundreth and xxij<sup>th</sup> and the xv yere of the Reigne of Kyng Henry the Eight I Robard Collyns Cittizen and

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\* Under the heading of "Testamenta Antiqua" we hope to print from time to time ancient wills of interest or importance.

haberdassher of London beyng of good and holle mynde and yn perffytt Remembrans lawde & praysyng be to Allmyghty god : make order and dysspose this my present testament and last wyll in manere & forme ffolowyng that is to say ffyrst I geve & beq wethe my sowle vnto Allmyghty (*sic*) my maker and Redemer to the most gloryus virgyn his mother o' lady saynt mary And to all the holy Companye of saintes yn hevyn : my body to be buryed yn the parysshe church of saynt mariayne yn the vyntry of london vnder the marble stone that I cawsed to be laid there wher the body of Awdry my late wyffe leyth buryed on whose Sowle Jhesu have mercy And I be qweith to the heygh awlter of the same church for my Tythes and offeryngges forgottyn or by me neglygently w<sup>t</sup> holden if any suche be yn discharge of my Sowle and conciens vj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> Item I wyll have at my buryeng direge and masse of Requiem iiij tapurs xij torches of waxe and ij branches of virgyn waxe as the custom is whiche xij torchis after myne obseques don I be quethe syx of them to the mayntenance of the brotherhed of o' blessed lady w'yn the said church and the other syx torches to the mayntennance of the brotherhed of saynt xpofer w<sup>t</sup> in the same church to thentent that my sowle may be prayd for by the brederne and Sisterne of the same *fraternyties* yn ther dewote prayers Item I be qweith to the Crossed fryers yn london vj<sup>th</sup> xiiij<sup>th</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> and I wyll that the convent of the same place at my buryeng brynge my body to church and also That the p'ur of the same place cawse to be songe w'yn his church ther ymmedyatly after my decesse a duryge over nyght and a masse of Reqwem in the morow solely be note and lyke wyse at my mon<sup>th</sup>es mynde for the sowle of me & my wyffe and also iij tryntalls\* of massis at scala cely† for o' sowle as sone as conveniently they may after my dissece Item I geve and beqwethe vnto John Charle3 iiij<sup>th</sup> st<sup>r</sup> my Rynge of ffyne gold whiche I vse to were vpon my ffynger wheryn is sett a Red stone. a sarsonshed‡ graved theryn A taster of Sylu<sup>r</sup> pois vij oz & di on of my best levery gownes and hodd wheither it please hym to take the blak or the vyolett as they be nowe ffurred my blak mornyng gowne w<sup>t</sup> the typett therto be longyng and my best doblett of blak worsted ffore sleved w<sup>t</sup> velvett and I be qweith to Allys his wyffe of the same John Charllis the vyolett gowne forred w<sup>t</sup> schankes§ late my wyves Item that myne Executor here vndernamed ymmedyatly after my dissece as sone as conveny<sup>t</sup> may be delyu'e & paye vnto the same John Charllis whome of this my present testament and last wyll I make & order myne over Ceyer¶ xl markes st<sup>r</sup> to the yntent ffolowyng that is to say that

\* A trental consisted of thirty masses.

† The chapel of St. Mary, called Scala Caeli, was situated in an uninhabited district of the Campagna. It derived its name from a vision of St. Bernard, who, while saying mass for certain souls, saw them ascending by a ladder to heaven. Henry VIII's chapel at Westminster was also known as Scala Caeli. We are indebted for the information in this note to a footnote by Dr. Sharpe in the *Calendar of Wills in the Court of Husting*. Part II., p. 234.

‡ i.e., Saracen's head.

§ Shanks were furs made from the skins of the legs of animals.

¶ i.e., Overseer.

the same John Charles w<sup>t</sup> xx<sup>ii</sup> parcell of the same xl markes by the a<sup>d</sup>vise of myne Executor shall *provyde* an onest pryst of good name & be havor to synge yn the same chu<sup>r</sup>che of sent *martheyne* at ower ladys awlter vnther saynt george ther wher the body of my said wyffe lyeth buried for my sowle my same wyffes Sowle o<sup>r</sup> chylldernes sowles and all Cristen Sowles by the space of iij yeres next following my Disseas and wyll that the said pryst say before *Euery* lavatory in his suche masse over my said stone *De proffondis* for my sowle and my said wyffes sowle w<sup>t</sup> all xpen sowles and to cast holy water upon my Stone at *Euery* such tyme And I wyll that the same John Charles geve and pay to the same p<sup>r</sup>est for his salary and wagg<sup>s</sup> *Euery* yere yerely duryng the same iij yeres x *markes* of good and lawfull money of yngland and w<sup>t</sup> other x *markes* of the said xl *markes* I wyll that the said John Charles *euery* yere yerely duryng the space of vij yere next after my disesse do kepe or Cawse to be kept yn the said Churche of S<sup>t</sup> *martheyn* for me & my wiffe on the day that it shall ffo<sup>r</sup>tune me to be buried an obite or A *anniversarie* that he spend *euery* yere yerely yn and abowte the same obite xiiij<sup>d</sup> that is to say to geve to the *parysshe* prist ther for that tyme beyng viij<sup>d</sup> to the clerk iij<sup>d</sup> and the Sexton iij<sup>d</sup> for the pellis of the bellis ij<sup>s</sup> and the recydue that shall remayne of the said xiiij<sup>s</sup> iij<sup>d</sup> to be delt in bred & Ale to powre people of the *paryshe* ther by the discrecyon of my said overseyer Also that my same overseer at *euery* suche obite geve & delyuere vnto the master and wardens that for the tyme shalbe of the ffealowschip of haberdasshers of london v<sup>s</sup> and viij<sup>d</sup> st<sup>r</sup> to theyntent they shall distrybute yt amongyst ther Company suche as shal ffortune and please to cum to my said obite *parte* to offer at the masse ther And the Resydeu for a Recreation of them if it shall lyke them to be at my said obite accordyng to ther la<sup>d</sup>able costom and *promyse* to me by them made when I gave & delyueryd to them yn gasken wyne the sum and valew of xx<sup>ii</sup> pownd starlyng wherw<sup>t</sup> & w<sup>t</sup> more money to it addyd they purchassd at powlys wharffe by yere v<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>s</sup> And I will that if the same master and wardens & ffealowshep ffayle and com nat to my said obyte as above is specyffyd Than I will that at *Euery* such tyme as they shall so ffayle my said overseer Distrybute the same v<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> yn deddes of Charyte as he shall seme best for my Sowlys welth And I geve & beqweth to Johann Holmys my *seruant* a ffetherbed a bolster a pyllow a payer of blankettes and ij pair of shettes a keuerlett ij tableclothes a better & a worse a doss playne napkens my great brase pott my greatt brasse pan ij platters iij dysshis & iij Sawssers of the butry vessell iij platter iij dysshis and iij Sawssers of the kechyn vessell a quart ale pott of pewter a pottell ale pott of pewter ij latteyne candylstykes the chest that standdes by her beddes syde wher she lyeth and my cobord in my chambur Item I be qweth to my Cosen Robt Collyns of Kinges ware my blew gowne ffurred, w<sup>t</sup> blak lambe & bugs to have my sowle in his Remembrance amongst his devote prayers. Item I be qweth vnto my Cossyn gerryns trenerth gent clark vnto master John trevelyon of the Channcery vj<sup>ii</sup> xiiij<sup>s</sup> iij<sup>d</sup> my Russett gowne ffurred w<sup>t</sup> ffoxe my seconde dublett of worsted my chamlett Jakett

on of my levery gownes w<sup>t</sup> the hode & typsett that whiche the said John Charlys shall Reffuse of them bothe my second ffetherbed a keuerlett of tapstrye wark a pair of good blankettes a pair of good shettes a bolster ij pyllowes and a bedstede Item I geve & beqweth to Davith hoge my newew dwellyng in worcyter my least macer a brace pott a lyttell brasse pane And I geve and bequeth to Nycholas bedyll of the haburdasshers my Ray gowne ffurred w<sup>t</sup> foxe & Also I will that myne Executors do make or cawse to be made a challes of the vallew of v *marcs sterling* for the said prist to singe masse w<sup>t</sup> duryng the said iij yerres whiche Challys I geve and be qweth after the same iij yerres expere to the said church of seynt martene the Resydew of all and syngler my goodes cattellis and dettes whatt so Euere they be after my dettes paid myne *ffeunerawle* expenses don and the legacy of this my *present* testament fully performed I will that myne Executer have to his use and *parte* in deddes of mercy and pyttye for the welth of my sowle as he shall and wolle annswere afore god and as he shall seme best and of this my *present* testament and last wyll I make and orden geruis trenerth and I geve & be qweth to hym for his labur in that be halffe over & be syddes his bequest afore said xl<sup>th</sup> st<sup>e</sup> and overseer of the same I make & orden the said John Charlys in witness wherof to this my *present* testament and last wille I have sett my sealle geven the day & yere ffirst a bove wrytten

Sigilla<sup>t</sup> et deliba<sup>t</sup> in p<sup>nc</sup>ia Thomæ  
nottbrone Johis orwell Ricardi gyttyns  
Rogeri tery lawrenci browne Johis  
yonge Randulphi Walton et in meo  
thomæ halle scriptoris

## (The Inventory.)

iiij ffetherbeddes v bolsters viij pyllows xvj payr of shettes of whyted  
normandy  
iiij payr pyllow beyers whyted normandy v payr ffyne pyllow beyers  
oppen semed  
iiij payr ffyne shettes vij fyne tabill clothes of dyoper viij dyoper  
towelles wher of ij lyn  
x Ellis long a pece ffyne Dyoper v Doss' of ffyne Dyoper napkens &  
ij doss' of corse dyoper  
iiij playn tabill clothes v playn towelles iiij Doss playn napkens  
iiij payr of corse shettes  
iiij coberd clothes ij of dyoper & ij playn ij couerlettess iiij payr  
blankettes a quylt & ij mantelles & ij mattresses

## The botry

v Chargers iiij brassen & An Ewer vj wyne pottyll pottes of y<sup>e</sup> old  
ffaschon & ij wyn potyll pottes of y<sup>e</sup> syllyvyr ffaschon ij qrt pottes  
of y<sup>e</sup> sellvyr ffascheon & one qrt pott of y<sup>e</sup> old ffaschon & a  
pyntt pot  
ij w pynt pottes of Syllyvyr ffaschon xx platers xx dyschis & xx sawcers  
of y<sup>e</sup> Sylver ffaschon

a pottyll alle pott ij qrt pottes & ij pyntes & ij di pyntes  
 ij Chyngaff Dyshes xij bell canstykes  
 & on other In the kechen v platter vi dysshis vj sawsers &  
 viij pothengers  
 iiij brasse pottes v basshe panys ij Chaffers & a skellet ix spyttes  
 ij gredy'ns a ffryeng pan  
 & a drepyng pan iij payr of Awnderns ij pair of tongges a ffeyr pan  
 & a Rake  
 a doss' of coschons iij carpettes a jonyd tabyll a tabyll w' a ffoott &  
 a long tabyll  
 vj jonyd stollis ij coberdes ij chayers a lytyll stole v chestes & iiij  
 bedes stedelles & ij testers  
 & Cellynges & hangynges for y<sup>e</sup> halle & iij Chambers & a Jak &  
 St Johns clothy of grene Saten & St Johns hed of Alleblaster\*  
 xviij peces of Cotten xv peces lynyn cloth

hys Rayment & my mothers

vij gowns *euery* one beter than other iiij doblesettes iii Jakettes a  
 kyrtyll of sarsenet a gown vyolet ffuryd w' gray & vyolet gown ffored  
 w' shankes a Rusett gown ffored w' shankes a sylver gyrdyll harnes  
 syllyvr & gilt & sett w' peryll & in y<sup>e</sup> myddes of y<sup>e</sup> harnes a Rebn  
 w' x wrether (*sic*) syvyrd (*sic*) & gylt w a harnys & a Rebn in it a  
 paire of bedds sylver & gylt dobyll gawdyd w' a pomawnd' of syluer  
 & gylt iij gold Ryngges of ffyne gold wherof ij turcas & a saffyr &  
 a hart of ffyne gold w' iij perillis & x<sup>n</sup> in Redy money the xxi day  
 of June 1523

The weyght of his plate

It a gylt Coppe w' a cov' weyng	xxx oz qrt
It iij gylt goblettes w' a cov' weyng	lxiiij oz q'
It a gylt nott w' a cov' weyng	xxx oz
It a gylt stadyng mass' weyng	xv <sup>oz</sup>
It ij masers weyng weyng ( <i>sic</i> )	xij oz iij q'
It iij goblettes w' a cov' parcell gylt	lj oz iij qr
It a Salt parcell gylt w' a cov'	xxvij oz

\* The "St Johns clothy of grene Saten & St Johns hed of Alleblaster" are very interesting items. What the "St Johns clothy of grene Saten" exactly was it is impossible to say; but connected with the curious sculptured panels of alabaster representing the head of St. John the Baptist in a charger, special cloths or palls are occasionally mentioned, and this of green satin was evidently one of them.

Regarding the St. John's heads themselves, we must refer our readers to an exhaustive paper by Mr. W. H. St. John Hope, M.A., in *Archæologia* LII., which contains illustrations of a number of those still preserved. These sculptured panels representing 'caput sancti Johannis Baptistæ in disco,' were evidently at one period of the middle ages very common, but what their use or significance was still remains an unsolved problem. It may be as well to draw attention to the fact that one is mentioned in the Inventory of the Cell of Stanelowe, which was printed in the last number of the *Reliquary*, p. 39. Two others occur in the list of Lord Montegle's jewels, etc., which is printed on another page of the present number. For a full description of the St. John's heads we must, however, refer our readers to Mr. Hope's paper in *Archæologia* referred to before.



It a Salt p̄cell gylt w<sup>t</sup> a Cov<sup>r</sup>  
 It ij whit bowllis weyng  
 It a whit flatt pece weyng  
 It a Syluer pott graven  
 It xij spones weyng xvij oz q

xij oz di  
 xl oz iij qrt  
 xiiij oz  
 xiiij oz  
 xvij oz qr

## THE WILL OF JOHN SMYTH OF COTTINGHAM.

The chief interest in this will lies perhaps not so much in its contents as in the fact that the testator was buried according to his direction in the stately church of St. Mary, Cottingham, midway between Hull and Beverley, and that a monumental brass to his memory and that of Joan his wife still remains in the church. It is



figured in the accompanying illustration, and, so far as we are aware, it has not been previously illustrated elsewhere. The greater fame of the celebrated, though much injured, brass to Nicholas de Louth at Cottingham has quite eclipsed the humble brass of John Smyth and his wife, which is of a type not uncommon at the period. It is thus described by Mr. Mill Stephenson, F.S.A.:

"Small full-length effigies, turned sideways, the man in the

ordinary civilian dress of the period, and the lady in kennel-shaped head-dress and close-fitting gown, with fur cuffs and edging.

Black letter inscription below effigies :

Orate p̄ aīabz Joh̄is Smyth et Johanne uxoris eius qui  
quidm̄ Johes obiit biij die mensis Septembris Anno  
dni millmo Dciii<sup>o</sup> quorum aīabz p̄picietur dñs ih̄s amen.

The figures are eighteen inches in length, and the slab now lies on the north side of the chancel floor." \*

For the transcripts of John Smyth's will, and of those of the four goldsmiths which follow, we are indebted to the kindness of Mr. William Brown, B.A., of Arncliffe Hall, Yorkshire.

*Reg. Test. Ebor. VI. 123b Aug. 19, 1504.*

John Smyth of Cotyngham To be buried in the churche of our blissid ladie of Cotyngham. My best beist for my mortuarie. To y<sup>e</sup> moder church of Cotyngham aforesaid and for my burying ther to be had xxs. To the sustentacōn of y<sup>e</sup> lyght w'in the said church of Cotyngham xxs. To y<sup>e</sup> Gylde of corpus xpi fownded w'in the said church of Cotyngham vj*li*. xiijs. iiij*d*. To y<sup>e</sup> moder church of Skythy xls. To y<sup>e</sup> moder church of South caue xxs. To euere of y<sup>e</sup> iiij orders of y<sup>e</sup> hous' of freers w'in the townes of Beuerley & Hull xiijs. iiij*d*., y<sup>t</sup> is to say in all liijs. iiij*d*. To y<sup>e</sup> masyndews w'in the towne of Hull xs., also to y<sup>e</sup> masyndews w'in the towne of Beuerley xs. To Elisabeth Alman iiij*li*. vjs. viij*d*. To Thomas Johnson of Anlaby to dispose emonges hys childryn xxs. To Elyn Pynder xxs. To Ric. Alman to dispose emonges his childryn xxs. Robert Pynder to dispose emonges his childryn xxs. Sir Robert Gillow preist iijs. iiij*d*. Sir Thomas Wilkynson preist iijs. iiij*d*. To euery preist belonging to y<sup>e</sup> said church of Cotyngham xij*d*. To Margaret Thyrsk and Thomas Bilburgh xxs. uppon accondicion thei be maried to gidder. To Sir John Mason preist xxs. To Elyn Thyrsk xiijs. iiij*d*., Alice Bendall vs., Alice Almour iijs. iiij*d*. To the repreacōn of the commyn way w'in the towne of Anlaby xs. To the repreacōn of the commyn waye callid the causaie betwyne Cotyngham and Hull xiijs. iiij*d*. To the Prior and Conuent of Watton vjs. viij*d*. To the Brevitor x*d*. Vnto y<sup>e</sup> childryn of John Marler, Alice Jenyns and Elisabeth Abbot, my daughters, iiij*li*. emonges thame to be deuided by y<sup>e</sup> desirecōn and disposiscōn of my said (*sic*) wyfe vpon condicion that my said daughters ne any of ther husbandes do not let ne interupe the execucōn of this my last will and testament, or in any wyse vex or let, interupt or truble, my said wife or myne assignes of or for any thyng concernyng the lease or graunt of y<sup>e</sup> maner of Faxflet and other landz and tent<sup>r</sup> thair to me & my said wyfe made by the duchesse of Suff<sup>r</sup>, or of and for any my goodes or catalles or any thyng concernyng my said will and testament, and if thei or any of theym dos or attempt any thyng to

\* *Yorkshire Archaeological Journal*, Part xlii., p. 207.

the cōtrary then the said childryn or any of thame not to haue any parte of thys my bequest. To euery of my said childer childryn x shepe and on felie or on qwie. Residew to Johan my said wyfe executrix. Sir Robert Sheffield knyght supervisour, for his labour liijs. iiij<sup>d</sup>. Thes witness' Sir Robert Gillow my curat, Sir Thomas Wilkynson, Sir John Mason, preistes, William Sheffield, John Stauhous.

#### FOUR GOLDSMITHS' WILLS.

So far as can be learnt from Dr. Collins's carefully compiled list of the York Wills (1514-1553), the four which follow are the only wills of Yorkshire goldsmiths not connected with the city of York during that period, which are preserved in the York Registry. They are, therefore, of more than passing interest.

At Kingston-on-Hull a company of goldsmiths seems to have existed in the middle ages, but the Hull goldsmiths can scarcely have been at that period of much account, for in 1453 the wardens of the neighbouring church of St. Augustine at Hedon, dealt with Edward Clough, a Lincoln goldsmith, when exchanging a couple of chalices belonging to their parish.\* In 1598 the Hull goldsmiths were incorporated together with several incongruous crafts in a common company.† During the seventeenth century they seem to have been fairly numerous, and some creditable pieces of plate remain which bear their marks, and the official mark of the town of Kingston-on-Hull as well. A list of these pieces of Hull plate is given by Mr. Cripps.‡ It was the legislation relating to provincial goldsmiths in the reign of William III. which inferentially ended the career of the Hull goldsmiths.

At Doncaster there is no known record of the existence of any goldsmiths' company, although, as in several other towns, goldsmiths were probably included in a general company of smiths.

The two other goldsmiths, at Kirkham and Gisburne (or Guisbrough, as it is now called), were presumably dependents on the priories at those places. It seems to have been the practice of some of the larger churches to have retained salaried goldsmiths attached to them in the same way that they retained masons and carpenters. For example, in the fourteenth century the Archbishop of York, when dealing with a reduction of expenditure at Beverley Minster, ordered that the goldsmith, as well as the stone cutter and the architect, should not be re-appointed.§ Neither Guisbrough or Kirkham were places at all likely in those days to furnish sufficient trade for a goldsmith, unless he had some recognised security, such as that which a salaried connection with a monastic establishment would ensure.

\* Poulson's *Holderness* II., 165.

† *Two Thousand Years of Gild Life*, by Dr. Lambert, 264.

‡ *Old English Plate* (fourth edition), 98.

§ *Beverlac*, 573.

## THE WILL OF JOHN HASTER.

*Reg. Test. Ebor. ix. 42. 23 Nov. 1511.*

John Haster of Kirkeham Goldesmyth. To be buried in the monasterie of Kyrkeham before the ymage of our lady in the north yle of the same church. Fyue poundes wax to be made in v tapers to be brent abowt my body the day of my buriall. My best gowne to god and to the church ther for my mortuarie. Allso I will that ther be founde v tapers of wax befor the same ymage of our blessed lady of iij quarters a taper an holl yere after my decesse. And the said tapers to be maide iiij tymes in the yere. My lorde Priour of Kyrkham to pray for thelth of my soule vjs viijd. The Suppriour of the same place for sich like paynes for my soule iijs iiijd. To euery broder of the same Conuent beyng prest ijs. To iij noueses ther iijs. To ij parochie clerkes ther xxjd. Vnto the sacristone ther for ryngyng of the belles and for my grave makyng at myn exequies xs. To xiiij poore men of the parishe ther xijjd. To Alice Redam iijs. iiijd. To be disposede by myn executours in halfe pennies to pore pepull secretly after ther descrecones xjs. Residewe to Margaret my wyffe and to John Baker Cityzen of Yorke executors. Witnesses my lorde Priour of Kyrkham, Sir Henry Kylburne, Sir John Kildwyke Chanons of the said house, Radulfe Browne and William Smyth. (Prov. March 20, 1516-7).

## THE WILL OF THOMAS WARDELL.

*Reg. Test. Ebor. x. 61. 27 May 1531.*

Thomas Wardell in Kyngston vpon Hull Goldsmyth. To be buried in the kirk of the Holy Trinite w'in the towne aforesaid. To the blissid sacrament in my parishe kirke iijs. iiijd. To the kirk wark in the said kirk xs. To ychon of the kirk wardens in the said kirk ijs. To Robert Pyller a litill ryng of gold prec' iijs iiij, or els als mych money. To William Browne Tailzer a new shirt. Item I will be buried w<sup>t</sup> the hoill tabill and vnderstoill\* and to hayff on sufficient wax. Item I will that my wyff at my half yere take xls and waie it als weill as she can in breid and chees and to dispose it [to] the powre peopill for the luff of god and helth of my saull. John Mychell my chamlet jacket. Agnes my wyff syster ij gownes, on lynyd w<sup>t</sup> sanct Thomas worstett,† and the other w<sup>t</sup> black lame. To Peter Nicholson and John Wardell my shop w<sup>t</sup> all instrumentes, that belonges tharto. To William Tymyatt iijs iiijd. To John Kar my sword that I had of the mounk of the Charter hows. To Hewgh Hall on ryng prec' xijjd, and to Thomas Williamson other lyek to it. To Sir Richard Wardell of Beuerley xxvjs viijd,

\* *i.e.*, all the ministers of the church both of the upper and lower grades.

† An interesting bequest. "St. Thomas worsted" was a particular kind of worsted, but in what respects its peculiarities consisted is not known. It is mentioned in the *Privy Purse Expenses of the Princess Mary* (afterwards Queen Mary) in the reign of Henry VIII., but not elsewhere.

he to hayff it in the space of iiij yer. To Richard Qwarton\* of Hull brig iij. Robert Ratcliff a bed as it standes, that his mother will wotsayff,† and to Elsabeth, his daughter, a nother bed as it standes. To William Ratcliff a covering of a bed, one of the best. To Marjon Wayrd my seruauent xij. To Sir Thomas Peith parish preist to pray for me iij. Residew to Alisson my wyff executrix Witnes, John Heryson, Thomas Peith, William Howetson, William Norre, and William Browne. (Prov. July 3, 1531).

#### THE WILL OF WILLIAM WHITHALCE

*Reg. Test. Ebor.* xi. 155. 5 Dec., 1534.

William Whithalce‡ (i.e. Whiteneck) Goldsmyth of Doncastre. In the churchyarde of sancte Georgie my body to be beried. For tithes forgettyn xij. The hie altar xij. Church warkes vj. The roodlight viij. William Whithalce my fader a buksynne dublett, & to John Whithalce my brodour an other ledder dublett. To John Rawson, my prentice, my leist stithe with ij hamers, and ij files, and ij grauers, with all my patrons.§ To euery on of my women seruauentes viij. Residue to Sibille my wif and hir three children, exors. Wittenes herof, William Richardson parishe prest, Sir William Palmar, Maister Thomas Walker, Alderman, John Baland, John Haulle. (Prov. Dec. 18, 1534).

#### THE WILL OF EDMUNDE KENDALL

*Reg. Test. Ebor.* xiii. 313. April 17, 1547.

Edmunde Kendall Goldsmyth of Gisburne. To be buried in Sancte Nicholas church yerde. Vnto the blissed sacramente of the altare to be prayd for xij. Vnto the syndinge of oure ladie pres'e and for the light a goode Kendall jackedt. Vnto Sir William ffieldewe curate to pray for my soull the best tache|| that he will chewse of my papire. Residue vnto Isabell my wif and my towe daughters Anne and Johan executours. Thes witnesses, Sir William ffieldewe curate, John Picherde, and Thomas Grayson. (Prov. June 20, 1547.)

\* The Wartons of Beverley were a well-known family.

† wotsayff—vouchsafe.

‡ The Register of the Sanctuary of Beverley Minster (*Surtees Soc.*, p. 70) records the names of "Willielmus Whithause nuper de Leedes in Comitatu Ebor. goldsmyth," and "Johannes Whythause nuper de Waykfeld in Comitatu Ebor. goldsmyth," both on Dec. 23rd, in the twenty-sixth year of Henry VIII. (1534). How far there may be any identity or connection with the testator must remain a matter for surmise.

§ Patterns.

|| tache = ? bundle, or, in other words, sheets of paper attached to one another.

## Miscellanea.

[Under this heading, we propose for the future, to devote a small space to *Short Notes on subjects of antiquarian interest, which do not call for long papers, and we shall be very glad to receive from our readers, contributions to this portion of THE RELIQUARY.*]

### The Ivory Cup known as the Grace Cup of St. Thomas of Canterbury.

THIS beautiful piece of plate (see illustration), which, with its cover, stands about fifteen inches in height, is the property of His Grace the Duke of Norfolk. It is traditionally said to have belonged to St. Thomas of Canterbury, and to be the cup given by Sir Edward Howard, Lord High Admiral, to Queen Katherine of Aragon, on whose decease it reverted to the Earl of Arundel. It has remained in the Howard family ever since, and it is said that throughout its known history it has always been traditionally reputed to have once belonged to St. Thomas of Canterbury, the initial letters T. B. with a mitre, which are engraved on it, being cited in corroboration of the tradition. The vessel consists of an ivory cup highly garnished with very beautiful silver-gilt mountings. It is of course just possible, though very unlikely, that the ivory cup itself may have once belonged to Thomas Becket, the silver mountings being a later addition, and the letters T. B. and the mitre placed on the cup to preserve the memory of its original owner. This, however, is not a probable hypothesis, and Mr. Cripps suggests that the initials may be those of Archbishop Thomas Bouchier, who died in 1486, the vessel being perhaps all of nearly one date. It is, however, doubtful if Archbishop Bouchier would have used the initials T. B. instead of T(homas) C(antuariensis).

Referring to the cup, Mr. Cripps says: "Ivory standing cups are sometimes found, and of these the best known example is the celebrated cup called Thomas à Becket's, long at Corby Castle. This is a very ancient ivory cup, bearing the initials T. B. and a mitre, from which it has been supposed that it may have belonged to the saint and archbishop himself; but, although very old, it can hardly be referred to as early a date as the twelfth century, and the mounting is of the reign of Henry VIII. The date-letter on the mount, which is all of the same style, is the Lombardic H of 1525, the date properly assigned to it many years ago by Mr. Octavius Morgan. The interesting history of the cup, which was given by Sir Edward Howard, Lord High Admiral to Queen Katherine of Arragon, and afterwards reverted to the Earl of Arundel, points to the date at which it was mounted in its present fashion, and coincides happily with the hall mark."\* Mr. Cripps later on suggests that the cup "probably belonged to some fifteenth century bishop, perhaps

\* *Old English Plate*, fourth edition, p. 285.

to that great prelate Thomas Bourchier, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1454 to 1486, and a Cardinal."

Mr. W. H. St. John Hope points out that if this cup be the "St. Thomas's cup" bequeathed "to the queen's grace" by Sir Edward Howard,\* the silver-gilt mountings must have been added



THE GRACE CUP KNOWN AS THOMAS BECKET'S

by the queen, as Sir Edward died in 1513. The queen's will does not mention the cup. Mr. Hope also suggests that T. B. and a

\* See his will in *Testamenta Vetusta*, p. 534.



mitre might stand for Thomas Berkeley, whose badge was a mitre, and that the cup perhaps belonged to Thomas, Lord Berkeley, who died in 1533, and whose grandson Henry, Lord Berkeley, married Catharine, third daughter of Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey, through whom this cup may have passed into the possession of the Howards.

The cup was one of the pieces of plate shown at the Tudor Exhibition in 1890, and the late Mr. J. E. Nightingale thus referred to it in our own pages: "The most curious object exhibited is the small ivory cup and cover which belonged to St. Thomas (Becket) of Canterbury. It is somewhat in the shape of a flat mazer bowl. This rather cumbersome looking piece is nearly hidden by the elaborate mounting, which retains a good deal of the late Gothic taste, with germs of the Renaissance. The hall mark carries the date 1525. The cover is surmounted by a figure of St. George and the dragon; the armour of the saint, however, appears to be of earlier date than 1525. The whole is ornamented with perforated leaf work, and is richly jewelled. Around the band is inscribed VINVM . TVVM . BIBE . CUM . GAVDIO. On the lid a similar band with ESTOTE SOBRII, the words alternating with the letters T B entwined within the labels of a mitre placed between them, and coupling them together, with pomegranates on either side."\*

Round the neck of the top of the cover, it may be added, are incised the words GOD \* FERARE, which have been taken by some persons to be the goldsmith's names; more probably they are a blunder for FEARE GOD. There are three hall marks on the rim of the silver mount of the cup: (1) the maker's mark, which is reproduced by Mr. Cripps, and which has not been noted on any other piece of plate; (2) the leopard's head crowned; (3) a Lombardic H (London hall marks for the year 1525).

### Recusants in Derbyshire, 1577.

AMONG the State Papers at the Public Record Office there is a certificate of Bishop Bentham,† who, writing from Eccleshall, November 10th, 1577, says, concerning Recusants in Derbyshire, "But towchinge Derbyshire, and so moche of Shropshire as ys of my Jurisdiction whereof yo<sup>r</sup> honors Letters mayde not suche speciall mention as of the former I have onely sent vnto you the names of suche, as have bene presented and are openly knowen not to come to the Church, w<sup>th</sup>out any valuinge at all, because I have not so good understandinge of theym beinge far of, as of Staffordshire gentilmen amongst whome I inhabite"‡

Then follows:

"The Names of all such persones gentilmen and others, w<sup>th</sup> in the Countie of Derby whiche come not to the Church to heare Divine Service

\* *Reliquary* (new series), vol. iv., p. 75.

† Thomas Bentham consecrated to the see of Coventry and Lichfield March 24, 1559-60. He died Feb. 21, 1578-9, and was buried at Eccleshall.

‡ *State Papers, Eliz.*, Vol. cxviii., 17.

Northwinkfeild parishe	{ The Lady Constans ffulieamb Richard Kechin her servannt Willm Birley als Burley
Longford parishe	{ Nicholas Longford esquier and his wife Robert Bakewell Richard Bakewell Katheryn Bakewell Marye Annte wife of Thomas Annte Robert Dakyn
Norburye parishe	{ Sr Thomas ffitzherbert Knyght Martyn Anndeley      gent* Christopher Abell      g. Christopher Rolleston      g. and his wife Willm Oldakers and his wife Richard Byll and his wife Richard morris and his wife Thomas Cotton and his wife John Oldakers and his wife Joane Bagnold wedow Trew haud als hudd Katheryn Abell
Ashover parishe	{ ffrancis Rolleston esquier and Marye his wife Thomas Jonson and Grace his wife
All Sanctes parishe in Derby	Willm Greene of Quornedon
St Peters in Derby Edleston parishe Byrke langley parishe Hathersythe parishe	Thomas Heyther Agnes Northe Thomas Tomson John ffitzherbert esquier and his wife

\* The word gent, and the two letters following with the same signification, are in the bishop's handwriting.

## Quarterly Notes on Archaeological Progress and Development.

*[These Notes are all original contributions to the "Reliquary," and are chiefly supplied through the kindness of the Hon. Secretaries or Editors of the leading county archaeological societies.]*

At the meeting of the SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES, held on Jan. 26th, the assistant secretary, Mr. W. H. St. John Hope, read a paper describing the excavations he has carried on at Castle Acre Priory, Norfolk, and by means of which he has succeeded in recovering the whole of the ground plan of that house. Mr. Hope's paper was illustrated with a number of plans, sections, and views, as also (for the sake of comparison) with a plan of Lewes Priory in Sussex, which Mr. Hope excavated a few years ago.



At the meeting held on Feb. 2nd, the following were elected Fellows of the Society:—Messrs. H. Jones (Blackheath); C. T. D. Crews (Billingbear Park, Berks.); H. Peet (Liverpool); Dr. Venn, F.R.S. (Bournemouth); and Mr. G. R. Fletcher (Clifford's Inn, E.C.). Mr. Waller read a paper on the carvings of the roof of Mildenhall Church, Suffolk.



At the meeting of the Society held on Feb. 9th, the Rev. F. M. Burton, LL.D. (Cowden, Kent); and Messrs. A. H. Smith (River Bank, Putney); A. Cock, Q.C. (London); W. H. Jacob (London); E. A. Ebbelwhite (London); and Dr. H. C. March (Rochdale), were elected Fellows of the Society. The president exhibited two masers of late sixteenth or early seventeenth century date, and the Bishop of Portsmouth (Dr. Virtue, F.S.A.) exhibited three early manuscripts formerly belonging to Reading Abbey. Mr. Clements Markham, F.S.A., also read a paper on the tower of St. Peter, in the Castle of Budrum, showing that it had been built by English knights in the reign of Henry IV.



At the meeting held on March 2nd, the second part of a paper by Messrs. St. John Hope and G. E. Fox, F.S.A., on the excavations at Silchester was read, and in connection with the paper a large series of antiquities and objects found during the excavations were exhibited. The following were also elected Fellows of the Society: Messrs. H. Wood (Chatham); A. Trice Martin (Clifton, Bristol); H. A. Harben (London); F. W. Pixley (London); E. Letchworth (London); and S. Salter, jun. (Ryde, I.W.).



At a meeting of the Council of the ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE on Dec. 20th, but too late for us to announce it in the January number

of the *Reliquary*, Mr. A. Hartshorne resigned the post of Editor of the *Archæological Journal*, in which he had succeeded Mr. W. H. St. John Hope, on the latter's election to the post of Assistant Secretary to the Society of Antiquaries. At the same meeting, Mr. H. Gosselin also resigned the post of Secretary to the Institute. The Council of the Institute have since elected Mr. Emanuel Green, F.S.A., as Director, and Mr. Mill Stephenson, F.S.A., as Secretary. The forthcoming meeting of the Institute in London will, we trust, result in the acquisition of many new members. It promises to be a meeting of more than exceptional interest, but it will, we should fancy, entail an enormous amount of labour on its two new officers. The Institute is to be warmly congratulated on having secured the services of those gentlemen.



The Crypt of Canterbury Cathedral had upon its earthen floor an accumulation of soil which hid the bases of its very numerous columns. The Dean and Chapter have caused this accumulation to be cleared away, and have thus brought into view the well-moulded bases of the shafts throughout. The depth of earth which obscured these mouldings varied from twelve to eighteen inches as a rule, although in some spots the accumulation of earth was even greater. The effect of bringing the whole of these vaulting shafts into view, and thereby showing the real height of the huge crypt, is remarkably striking.



Among the more important works announced for publication is one by Mr. W. H. St. John Hope, on "The Early Stall Plates of the Knights of the Garter before 1485." By special permission of Her Majesty the Queen, facilities have been given for copying the plates, which will be reproduced by Mr. Griggs as nearly as possible *fac-similes* of the plates themselves. With Mr. Hope's reputation for care and thoroughness in everything he undertakes, and Mr. Griggs's equally good reputation for the work he does, the volume promises to be one of the highest possible interest. It will be published by private subscription, the edition being limited to five hundred copies.



The Roman urns, etc., which were found a few years ago in Trinity Churchyard, at Chesterfield, and which were at the time described in the pages of the *Reliquary*, have found a fitting resting-place in the Derby Museum. The same museum has also acquired an Elizabethan quart Standard, which was very probably that originally sent as the standard to the town of Derby.



THE CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND ANTIQUARIAN AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY, during the year 1892, added no less than four volumes to their extra series, viz., two volumes of local "Pedigrees and Papers," being the collected works of the late Wm. Jackson, F.S.A.; a book on "The Manorial Halls of Westmorland

and Cumberland," by the late Dr. M. W. Taylor, F.S.A., who died while the work was in the press; and a book of Kendal Municipal documents. The manuscript of two more volumes are now ready for the press: the one being the "Fourteenth Century Wills from the Episcopal Registers of Carlisle," which have been prepared for the press by Chancellor Ferguson, and which are of a most interesting character; the other will contain the "Nineteen Charters of the City of Carlisle," which the corporation of that city have had transcribed and translated at the British Museum, under the supervision of W. de Gray Birch, F.S.A. To these will be added some medieval deeds transcribed by W. Nanson, F.S.A., and a selection of extracts from the "Chamberlain's Accounts," made by Chancellor Ferguson, who will furnish a preface and annotate the whole. The yearly issue of the Society's Transactions may be expected in April, early; it will contain an unusual number of illustrations, and the papers will deal with the Hardknott Excavations; the Platform for ballistæ found at Tullie House, Carlisle; the Roman Cemeteries of that City; with the Landnama Book of Iceland and its analogues in Lakeland; with the local families of Winder of Lorton, and Senhouse of Seascale; on the monuments at Lanercost, etc.; also further papers by Mr. Calverley, F.S.A., on Early Cross Fragments. The paper on Hardknott will be illustrated by plans and surveys, beautifully prepared by Mr. C. W. A. Dymond, F.S.A.



Nothing has yet been decided about the Society's excursions for this year, but Hardknott will probably be revisited if the excavations are continued, as is hoped. It is intended, if funds permit, to trench the vacant places in the camp, in hopes of finding foundations, and also to thoroughly search the vicinity for outlying buildings, etc., and to look over the whole road between Hardknott Castle and the Ambleside Camp.



The new buildings at Tullie House, Carlisle, progress but slowly. The collections that are to be housed therein continue to receive valuable accessions. All the manuscript collections of wills, pedigrees, and materials for pedigrees, collected by the late W. Jackson, F.S.A., towards a family history of the counties of Westmorland and Cumberland, have been given by his executors to Tullie House, in hopes that they may be of use, and some portion, at least, may be printed. Mr. Jackson's intention was to have published a volume of local wills between 1650 and 1750, a dark period, genealogically, for the visitations of the heralds cease and other sources were hardly opened until later. One large bundle contains materials for a history of the Lowthers; another of the Fletchers.



*Nil desperandum* in the way of finding lost manuscripts. Messrs. Lysons, in their history of Cumberland, mention they have had the loan from Lord Lonsdale of two manuscript histories of Cumberland—one by John Denton, and the other by Thomas Denton. These

manuscripts are the foundation of all the histories of Cumberland, and have been severely handled by the late Mr. Hodgson-Hinde in the *Archæological Journal*. Copies of John Denton are numerous, and it was recently printed by the local Archæological Society; but no living archæologist, or anyone else, has ever seen Thomas Denton's history since the days of the Messrs. Lysons, nigh eighty years ago, though the muniment rooms at Lowther and Whitehaven, and the libraries there, have been repeatedly ransacked for them. They have turned up at last in Lord Lonsdale's town house, and are now with his family solicitors, which does not bode well for the archæologists.



The WORCESTERSHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, which is an offshoot of the old Architectural Society, and already numbers more than 150 members, held its first annual meeting on the 25th of February, for the election of officers and the reception of a report from the Editorial Committee as to the contents of the first volume to be published. It is no object of the Society at present to produce any continuous history of the county as a whole, or of any particular place in it; but rather to accumulate stores of material from which a county history may hereafter be compiled, or from which any local historian may collect something towards the history of his own town or parish. To give effect to this, experts will be employed to investigate the collections in the British Museum, the Record Office, the MSS. of Habingdon, Dr. Prainton, and others, now in the possession of the Society of Antiquaries, the Archives of the Diocese of Worcester and of the Dean and Chapter, the Registers of the Bishops and of the Priors of Worcester Monastery, the Rolls of the Worcester Consistory Court, Manorial Court Rolls in the county, and the immense collections which have been made towards Worcestershire history since the time of Dr. Nash, a century ago. To collect such a mass of "pabulum" will occupy some years, and then the accumulation will be so extensive as to bewilder the most talented staff of editorial workers in the task of arrangement and publication. But the Society is quietly buckling on its harness for the colossal undertaking, and with the dogged perseverance of Englishmen, it means to accomplish the work. The members' subscription is to be a guinea a year, for which they will each receive an annual volume, derived from one or more of the sources above-mentioned. The annual meeting was presided over by Lord Cobham, and the Lord-Lieutenant of the County (Lord Coventry) was unanimously elected president, with a very influential committee; secretaries—Rev. J. B. Wilson and Mr. Southall, the Town Clerk. The first volume is to comprise a Taxation Roll of the thirteenth century, from Sir Edmund Lechmere's archives, and part of the Dean and Chapter's "Sede Vacante Register."



The twenty-eighth annual meeting of the YORKSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND TOPOGRAPHICAL ASSOCIATION was held at Leeds on

February 10th, Mr. Edmund Wilson, F.S.A., presiding in the place of Mr. T. Brooke, F.S.A., who was absent, owing—we regret to say—to serious illness.

The report and balance-sheet, which had been printed and circulated among the members, and were taken as read, show a very satisfactory result of the year's proceedings. There is a balance to the credit of the society of £54 10s. 11d., after discharging every liability for the year and paying off £20 6s. 9d., the deficit of the previous year. This agreeable state of things is mainly due to the large increase in the number of members, and the thanks of the association are due to those friends who have so assiduously pushed forward its claims to increased support. The annual excursion of the society was held at Burton Agnes and at Bridlington Quay, giving members the opportunity of seeing the stately home of Sir Henry Boynton to great advantage; and Mr. Bilson, local secretary for Holderness, gave an interesting account of the different owners of Burton Agnes. At Bridlington Priory Church the society again had the advantage of the help of Mr. St. John Hope, who elucidated the somewhat complicated details of the famous church with his usual acumen. The unqualified success of the excursion induced the council to agree to a second being arranged later in the autumn, when Beverley was visited. On that occasion Mr. Bilson read a paper in St. Mary's Church, and the Minster was discoursed upon by Mr. Hope. To both these gentlemen the society are deeply indebted for their help.



The report proceeded to deal with the proposed incorporation of the association, and stated that the course which the council proposed to take had been adopted by many public bodies, and had several advantages, the chief of which is that it would give the society a legal status, and enable it to hold property without the intervention of trustees, and without the consequent difficulties caused by deaths, changes of trustees, etc. The management of the society, too, would be far better and more clearly defined under the proposed memorandum and articles of association than under the old system, and the powers, rights, and privileges of the council and of individual members would be more clearly understood. The council believed that the proposed change would be for the benefit of the society.



Mr. Chadwick then laid the memorandum and articles of association before the meeting, and said that although they were open to alteration, addition, and improvement, he hoped they would not make any such at that time. Each line, clause, and article had been thrashed out, and had received the approval of the council and of the Board of Trade, and if that meeting took no objection, the Board would issue the certificate of incorporation. Should, however, there be amendments made, it would necessitate further work and trouble, and consequent delay. Having stated



some of the advantages to be derived from incorporation, he moved the following resolution :

"That this meeting having duly considered the proposed memorandum and articles of association of the Yorkshire Archæological Society, does hereby approve the same, and does authorise the council to complete and register such memorandum and articles, and to obtain the license of the Board of Trade, under the provisions of Sec. 23 of the Companies' Act, 1867 ; and further, that as soon as the said society is duly incorporated, all the property of the Yorkshire Archæological and Topographical Association shall be given and transferred to the society, on the terms of the 35th article of association." This was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

Mr. Chadwick then proposed the election of the officers and council of the new Incorporated Society, which is to be known by the name of the YORKSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY. The motion, having been seconded, was also carried unanimously. With this important change the Yorkshire society enters, as we hope, on a new and extended sphere of usefulness and prosperity.



An interesting discovery of an early pile-building has been made in Berkshire. In the course of constructing a boat slide alongside the Lock at Cookham it was necessary to make a concrete foundation at each end, and on excavating a hole some twelve feet square and six feet deep at the lower end, in the peat mud over the gravel there were found a horse's skull and some bones, together with two fragments of pottery tolerably well baked, glazed black, and hand-made by design and character, similar to some specimen of Romano-British crockery at Silchester.

In the gravel were found about a dozen oaken piles, some three feet in length, standing perpendicularly, much charred, and cut or scraped to a point like a badly cut lead pencil. The Thames is at Cookham divided into three branches, and there were formerly many other streams that no longer exist. The alluvial flat was then a swampy morass, a very likely place for a pile-dwelling. Mr. R. E. Goolden, of Cookham, has carefully preserved these interesting relics, and some have been deposited in the Reading Museum.



By an unfortunate oversight we omitted to say that the illustration given in the January number of the *Reliquary*, of Hindolvestone Church, Norfolk, before the fall of the tower, was taken from an excellent photograph by Mr. Miller of Fakenham, Norfolk. Now that the church has been, practically speaking, destroyed by the fall of the tower, we have no doubt there are many persons who will be glad to know where they can obtain a photograph of it in its original state.

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[Several notes are unavoidably held over.]

## Reviews and Notices of New Books.

[Publishers are requested to be so good as always to mark clearly the prices of books sent for review, as these notices are intended to be a practical aid to book-buying readers.]

THE INDUSTRIAL ARTS OF THE ANGLO-SAXONS BY THE BARON J. DE BAYE. With Seventeen Steel Plates, etc. Translated by T. B. Harbottle. Quarto, pp. x, 126. London: Swan, Sonnenschein & Co. Price 21s.

This is an excellent work, and it is somewhat remarkable that it should have been left to a foreigner to produce it. Scattered in considerable profusion throughout the various Proceedings of archaeological societies are descriptions of numberless discoveries of Anglo-Saxon antiquities, which have been made from time to time. Scarcely any attempt, however, has hitherto been made to arrange or classify these different "finds." This the author has done with considerable judgment in the book before us. In the Preface he says that he does not "pretend to offer to English archaeologists any new or startling discoveries. Anglo-Saxon industrial art has never, it is true, been dealt with as a whole, but its various branches, in all their numberless details, are none the less well known. It is our desire to provide archaeologists with means of comparison, to enable them to judge from a broader standpoint questions relating to the great invasions," etc. This the author accomplishes in a very clear and succinct manner.

In the first ten pages he deals with the different invaders of our country in the fifth century, the Jutes, Saxons, Angles, and Frisians. Then in the succeeding section Anglo-Saxon arms are dealt with, and two plates, one of spears and angons, and the other of umbones, are given. The next section deals with Anglo-Saxon fibulæ, the different types being clearly described, and eight plates devoted to their illustration. There is also a section on Cloisonné jewelry in England. "Girdle-hangers," as they are here called, are next described, and plate xi. is devoted to a full-sized reproduction of a couple of these curious objects, which Mr. Roach Smith considered to have been parts of the dress of Anglo-Saxon ladies, but which others, with perhaps more reason, have identified with the fastenings of a bag. Probably it is wise to admit that we do not know what their original use was. Very few, less, we believe, than a dozen, have hitherto been found, and those mainly, if not entirely, in the eastern counties of south Lincolnshire, Suffolk, and Cambridgeshire.

Baron de Baye afterwards passes on to necklaces and beads, earrings, hairpins, and combs, and then deals with buckles. The next section treats of buckets, and we are then brought to the interesting and important subject of Anglo-Saxon glass, which is very fully and carefully treated and illustrated; and finally the subject of Anglo-Saxon pottery is discussed, two plates being devoted to glass vases, and two to pottery.

The volume is one which it is impossible to consult without learning

something fresh, although, as the author confesses, he has no new or startling discovery to announce. The mere bringing together of the different objects side by side, with their varied characteristics, makes them tell a great deal themselves, and throws a considerable light on many points connected with the different invaders who landed on our shores. Baron de Baye quotes times without number different English writers of repute, and invariably gives his authority for every statement he makes. The work is very thoroughly done, and the translation reads so easily, that if the reader was not told that it is a translation of a foreign work, he would scarcely make the discovery himself. If a second edition is called for, as we think is very likely to be the case, we would suggest rather more space should be devoted to the smaller things, such as beads, etc., and also we should be glad of the addition of a list of discoveries of Anglo-Saxon objects, so far as this is practicable, and where the objects are now preserved. As regards the rarer objects, this would be extremely useful to the student, and not a matter of much difficulty. The illustrations, which appear to have been mainly drawn by the author, are very good and useful, and the book as a whole is one for which English antiquaries owe a debt of gratitude to Baron de Baye.



OLD FRENCH PLATE, ITS MAKERS AND MARKS. By Wilfred J. Cripps, C.B., F.S.A. Second Edition, with Illustrations. Medium 8vo., pp. vi. 113. *London: John Murray.*

Mr. Cripps' work, "Old English Plate," has been for so long a time recognised as the standard work on the subject of which it treats, that the appearance of a second edition of its smaller sister, "Old French Plate," is worthy of more than passing attention. A foreigner is of necessity placed at some disadvantage in such a matter, if for no other reason than that not being actually on the spot he has to trust to some extent to other people, and is often out of the reach of intelligence as to the existence of some notable vessel, which may not be known beyond a limited range. It is remarkable, therefore, that Mr. Cripps should be able to produce such an excellent work on the plate of a foreign country, and that within the space of only a few years a second edition of the work should be called for.

The author remarks in the Preface that "the high esteem in which old French Plate is held amongst connoisseurs and collectors at home and abroad renders a knowledge of the ancient marks used to distinguish it as genuine, desirable, and even necessary." With a view of elucidating old French marks (the complicated modern French system of marks has often been published), Mr. Cripps has collected all that has hitherto been ascertained on the subject by antiquaries in France, as well as from his own investigations and observations.

The work is divided into four chapters. The first chapter deals with French weights, measures, and standards of fineness. The second chapter is devoted to early goldsmiths at Limoges, to the

Paris goldsmiths, and the various ordinances, with lists of notable goldsmiths, etc., and with fac-similes of marks. Very interesting and curious is the account given (p. 15) of the different standards of fineness in different towns, and of the rules of the Montpelier goldsmiths on the succeeding page.

The third chapter deals with ancient provincial hall-marks, the mint letters of provincial centres, a table of towns where plate was made before 1783, and other matters.

The fourth chapter relates to more recent marks, and in an Appendix is a catalogue of examples of old French plate with the makers' name and marks.

Mr. Cripps is to be warmly congratulated on the success of this manual, which is a worthy companion to his other and better known work on the plate of his own country. It is, indeed, no slight compliment to "Old French Plate" to say that it is a worthy companion to "Old English Plate." We hope that Mr. Cripps may be induced before long to give us other similar volumes dealing with the plate of other foreign countries.



**HISTORIC TOWNS—YORK.** By James Raine, M.A., D.C.L. Cloth. Crown 8vo., pp. vii, 223. *London: Longmans, Green & Co.* Price 3s. 6d.

Nothing could be more in accordance with the fitness of things than that the volume of this series dealing with York should be entrusted to the hands of Canon Raine. Connected for many years with York, literally saturated with a knowledge of its history, and with all bearing on the past in and around the city, Canon Raine occupies a vantage ground such as no one else at the present day can approach. When, too, a work of this kind is written by a scholar of Canon Raine's reputation, it goes without saying that the result will in every way be satisfactory. The work is divided into three parts, the first of these, containing eight chapters, is devoted to "The General History of the City." These eight chapters take the reader through the history of York (and how many cities possess such a history?) from the early dawn of Celtic times, through the Roman occupation, then in detail through the succeeding periods of the middle ages, and on to the Revolution of 1688.

The second part is entitled "Church History, Education, and Charities." This comprises two chapters—the first dealing more especially with the See, minster, etc.; and the second with the missionary and education work of the Church and monasteries. As Dr. Raine observes in the Preface, the ecclesiastical position of York has been maintained more evenly and effectively than the civil.

In the third part, which consists of a single chapter, Canon Raine deals with "The Municipality and City." The book is necessarily full of interest from beginning to end, but it is impossible to do more than give this brief outline of its scheme. If Canon Raine found a difficulty in confining the subject matter within the prescribed limits of the volume, as he says in the Preface was the case, it is obviously

impossible to attempt a further process of reduction on our part. Few books of the kind are of such excellence as the volume before us, and with Canon Raine we regret that its limits could not be extended. At the end is a good plan of the Norman fortresses.



THE MANNER OF THE CORONATION OF KING CHARLES THE FIRST OF ENGLAND AT WESTMINSTER, 2 Feb., 1625. Edited for the Henry Bradshaw Liturgical Test Society by Chr. Wordsworth, M.A. (Issued to Members of the Society, 1892. Cloth 8vo. pp. lxviii, 147).

The title of this volume really gives a very imperfect idea of the mass of information with which Canon Wordsworth has filled every page. When, a few years ago, the late Mr. Maskell was engaged in forming a comparative account of the coronation services used at different times at the consecration of the English sovereigns, what was practically a blank had to be left as regards the coronation of Charles I. Yet, although unknown to the learned editor of *Monumenta Rituala*, there is preserved in the library of the college of St. John at Cambridge the very copy of the service which Charles I. held in his hands during his coronation. This manuscript came to St. John's from Archbishop Sancroft, through the hands of Thomas Baker, the well-known non-juring *socius electus* of that college. It is now printed as the text of the volume which Canon Wordsworth has edited, but it is amplified by comparison with two other manuscripts, and from these two manuscripts a very large number of annotations have been derived. One of these is a transcript from a contemplated form for the coronation. This is now preserved in Lambeth Palace Library. The other manuscript, which is preserved at St. John's College, Cambridge, in all probability belonged to Laud, who acted as deputy dean of Westminster on the occasion of the coronation, and had also no small share in the arranging of the office itself. In addition to these, a copy in the State Paper Office, with some marginal notes in Laud's handwriting, has helped to supplement the notes in his own copy. Various other documents have also been brought into requisition, and every source of information has been exhaustively worked in such a manner as not merely to form an elaboration of annotation to the Form of the Coronation of Charles I., but also to form a large amount of information on the subject of English coronations generally. It is the devout hope of every loyal Englishman that it may be many long years before Westminster witnesses another coronation, but whenever that august ceremony is again performed there, this book, so ably edited, and so fully illustrated with scholarly acumen by Canon Wordsworth, will be of great value in rehabilitating the service in some liturgical characteristics which it has been gradually losing since the seventeenth, or perhaps we should say since the sixteenth, century. This book is the second volume issued by the *Henry Bradshaw Society*, and it certainly augurs well for that society that its two first volumes should be of such high interest as the Westminster Missal and the Form of Coronation of Charles I. are, and that

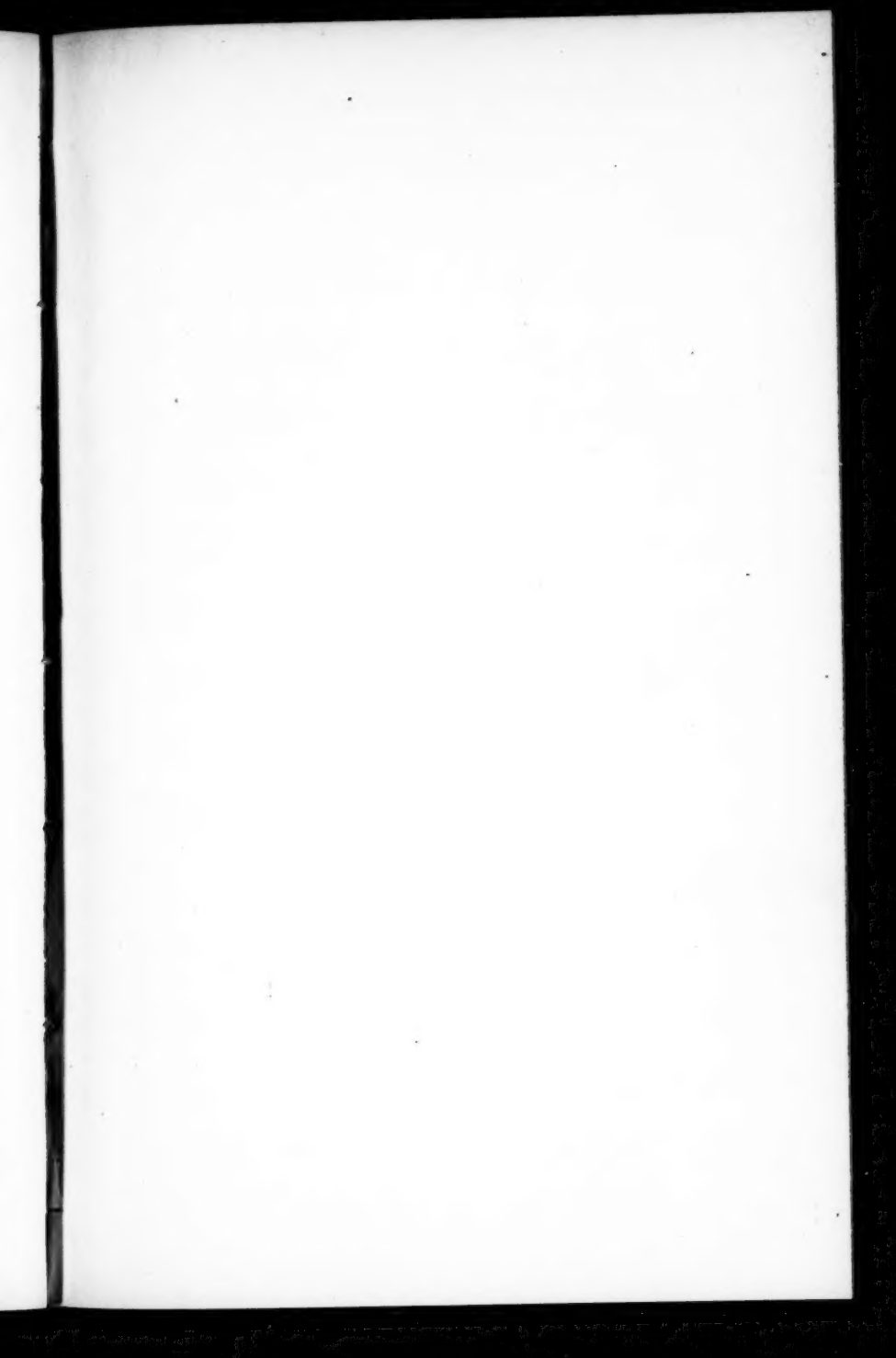
they should both have been so ably edited by Dr. Wickham Legg and Mr. Wordsworth respectively as they have been.



JOURNAL OF THE CHESTER ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND HISTORIC SOCIETY. New Series, Vol. IV. Cloth 8vo., pp. viii, 251.

This is the volume of the Society for the year 1890-91, and it has been edited by Mr. T. P. Earwaker. The contents are various, and of somewhat various degrees of merit. Some of the papers come under the head of history, and others under that of archæology, thus justifying the society's double title. The first article is a historical one of considerable interest on Thomas Cartwright, who was bishop of Chester from 1686 to 1689, a worldly-minded sort of Vicar of Bray, but a man of no mean parts, and, moreover, one who took a prominent share in the stirring politics of the times in which he lived. It is written by the Rev. F. Sanders, who states that he began it, hoping to be able to clear the bishop from some of the hard things said of him by Burnet and Lord Macaulay. In the end, Mr. Sanders's description of the bishop makes him blacker than ever. He was evidently a man of composite character, and we think Mr. Sanders scarcely emphasizes with sufficient justice the bishop's nobler side. There can be no doubt that while to serve James II. he favoured the Roman Catholics in an extraordinary manner, yet he never swerved in the least from a loyal and conscientious attachment to Anglicanism. This shows that he had at the bottom the courage of his convictions, and drew a line at a point where he would remain firm. The portrait of him is not that of a pleasing or devout man, but that he was in some respects the most able of the bishops who have held the see of Chester seems incontestable.

Mr. Romilly Allen contributes a good paper on the "Christian Monuments of North Wales." This is followed by another paper of interest by Mr. H. Taylor, F.S.A., on the "Flintshire Militia, etc." The "Roman Pigs of Leal" in the Grosvenor Museum at Chester form the subject of the next paper, which is written by Canon Morris. This is succeeded by a paper of much importance by Mr. Haverfield, on "The Administration of Roman Mines." Mr. G. W. Shrubsole contributes a paper on "A Settlement of Prehistoric People in Delmere Forest," which is carefully written. This is followed by another very useful paper by Mr. Earwaker on "The Four Randle Holmes, of Chester," men whose names, and writings, and manuscripts have been much confounded one with the other. An account of a new window in St. John's Church follows. It is interesting in itself, the window containing pictures of historical events, but it was hardly worth incorporating in the present volume. Mr. H. Taylor contributes some very interesting notices of early Chester goldsmiths, from deeds dating as far back as *circa* 1292. A short paper on the bells of St. Michael's, Chester, follows, and the rest of the book is occupied with the minutes of the meetings of the Society. We should say that they were scarcely worth the cost of printing. The volume is well illustrated, and is a credit to the Society and to Mr. Earwaker, the editor.





SOUTH SIDE.

8 AND 18.



9.



19 AND 26.



20.



NORTH SIDE.

24.



25.



29.



7 AND 30.



31.



39.



40.

